FBI Reopens Inquiry of Black Gay Man's Death

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GayCommunityNews

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FBI Reopens Inquiry in Black Gay Man's Death

By Marcos Bisticas-Cocoves

CONCORD, CA — The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has reopened its investigation into the death of a Black gay man here in response to requests from the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Timothy Lee, 23, was found hanging by a nylon strap from a fig tree near the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station here on November 2. The police in this predominantly white suburb of San Francisco claim that Lee committed suicide. (See *GCN*, Vol. 13, No. 25.) Activists in the Black and lesbian/gay communities have maintained that Lee was murdered, and the NAACP is now saying that he was raped as well. Further, questions have been raised as to the involvement of the Ku Klux Klan in the murder, and the possibility of Klan influence inside the Concord police department itself.

Background

Activists and police agree that Lee, a Berkeley resident, fell asleep on the last train from San Francisco on the evening of November 1. BART employees woke Lee at the last stop in Concord, where he was told to wait until the trains started at 6 a.m. the following morning. Lee called Karen Carter, the mother of one of his friends, shortly after 1 a.m. for a ride home. Carter tried to call the Concord BART station at 1:30 a.m. and found the line busy.

Lee was found hanging at 12:36 p.m. on November 2. His wallet was found 30 feet from his body, with cash and credit cards untouched. The Contra Costa County Coroner's Office reported that he had died at approximately 6 a.m.

There are several points of contention surrounding Lee's death. First, a note addressed to Lee's brother and sister was found near his body. The Concord police claim that this was a suicide note. Carmen Fortes, of the Coalition Against Racist, Sexist, and Anti-gay Attacks, argues that the note was illegible, that the names of Lee's brother and sister were misspelled, and that this evidence it had been written under duress. The Coalition is an ad hoc group formed in the wake of Lee's death.

Second, Lee's body was covered with a series of marks which the coroner's office report states are ant bites. Tammy Lee, Timothy's sister, and other relatives who identified the body argue that they appear more like cigarette burns or cuts resulting from a struggle.

Third, according to Thordie Ashley of the NAACP, a straight white couple who live near the train station heard screams from the station between 1 and 2 a.m. The couple, Marilyn Hannum and Bill Callison, were never interviewed by Concord police.

Fourth, on the night Lee died two Black men were assaulted outside a Concord restaurant by two white men wearing Ku Klux Klan robes. Both men were stabbed, and one was hospitalized. The two white men denied any affiliation with the KKK, and claimed that they were going to a Halloween party, even though it was two days after Halloween. Oliver Jones, an attorney for the Black men, argues that although there has been no direct connection made between Lee's death and the stabbings, further investigation is warranted.

The Concord police ruled Lee's death a suicide. Further, Captain Robert Evans of the Concord police told *GCN* on January 2 that the FBI had corroborated his department's investigation with its own inquiry. John Holford, of the FBI, refused to corroborate Evans' claim at that time, but did

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Reagan Seeks $50M AIDS Cut

By Gordon Gottlieb

WASHINGTON, DC — Five months after he called AIDS research "one of the [administration's] top priorities," President Ronald Reagan asked Congress on Feb. 5 to cut approximately $50 million in already-appropriated funds for AIDS-related research, testing, and direct services. AIDS activists here are optimistic that support for AIDS funding on Capitol Hill will prevent major cuts from being enacted.

Only 20 percent of the requested cut stems from compliance with the Gramm-Rudman Act of 1985, which mandates automatic spending cuts to achieve a reduced deficit. The bulk of the cuts — $41 million — represent recisions, administration-recommended cuts in particular programs. The four AIDS programs eyed for reduced funding are:

- Demonstration Health Program ($15 million)
- Alternative Testing Sites ($10 million)
- National Institutes of Health research ($14 million)
- Public Health Service Hotline ($2 million)

If the Reagan proposals are enacted, the impact of Gramm-Rudman would be felt most severely during FY 1988 through 1991, when appropriations would be frozen at $213 million each year, regardless of changing needs.

"We're confident we can restore all the recisions for 1986," maintains Jeff Levi, who monitors congressional action for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "Our goal is to go into the Gramm-Rudman process with as high [an appropriations] base as possible. We hope there will be more than $244 million in FY 1987. We still need to make so much progress in research. Basic research remains our highest priority."

Levi said the effort to maintain this high funding level for AIDS programs is realistic given its strong support in Congress. "There is no desire in the House by the Republicans or the Democrats to reduce appropriations.... Even the right-wing homophobes are not a problem in the funding process." Despite the lack of an organized opposition, however, Levi speculates that, as a result of the cumbersome budget process, a final decision before the summer is unlikely.

Calling the proposed cuts "unpalatable," Andy McLeod, press secretary to Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-CT), said Weicker, who sits on a key appropriations subcommittee, would push to minimize the impact of Gramm-Rudman. The 1986 elections may prompt members of Congress to support crucial social programs, including AIDS funding, McLeod noted.

The same day Reagan presented his budget to Congress, he called on U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop to undertake "a major report to the American people" on AIDS. The report is to be presented in three months.

According to Paul Boneberg, coordinator of the National Mobilization Against AIDS, the intent of the Koop report may be to minimize the impact of an independent report on AIDS to be released later in the year by the National Academy of Science's National Institute of Medicine. Boneberg said Koop, who has no familiarity with AIDS, could be expected to produce "an apologist's report," which would, among other things, encourage more HTLV-III testing.

In Boston, local social service and peace activists rallied at Boston City Hall, protesting the deleterious impact increased military spending has on vital domestic priorities, including health care issues, housing, and education. At the February 6 rally, representatives from tenants and seniors groups, organized labor, and Latino organizations, described the effect the Reagan budget would have on their communities at the rally sponsored by the Jobs with Peace campaign.

Recently-declared congressional candidate Mel King urged repeal of the Gramm-Rudman Act, claiming that the law "sets the tone" for more and more cutbacks at the same time military appropriations are rising. Two other progressive candidates for Massachusetts' Eighth Congressional District seat — state Rep. Thomas Gallagher and state Sen. George Bachrach — also spoke at the press conference held prior to the rally.

— filed from Boston

Lesbian's lover continues legal fight

Disabled Rights Issues Raised in Kowalski Case

"We're talking about the quality of a person's life — doesn't Sharon [Kowalski] have the right to recover?"

— Karen Thompson

By Stephanie Poggi

ST. CLOUD, MN — A court battle here over the guardianship of a disabled lesbian may set positive precedents for the rights of disabled people and lesbians and gay men. But Karen Thompson fears that that result may come too late for her lover, Sharon Kowalski, severely injured over three years ago in an automobile accident. (See *GCN*, Vol. 13, Nos. 15, 25, & 27.)

Kowalski's father, Donald Kowalski, was appointed his daughter's guardian on July 23, 1985. Denying Thompson and Sharon Kowalski's relationship of several years, he has successfully prohibited Thompson from visiting his daughter, who now lives in a nursing home in Hibbing, Minn.

After several setbacks in the district, appellate, and supreme court levels in the state, aspects of the case have now been presented to the U.S. Supreme Court. On February 1, the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union (MCLU), thus far prohibited from representing Sharon Kowalski despite requests that the organization do so from her court-appointed lawyer, filed a petition to the high court.

The petition asks that the Supreme Court determine whether: 1) a disabled person has the right to be represented by the legal counsel of her choice in court proceedings that determine her legal capacity; 2) a disabled person's court-appointed lawyer has the right to associate with other attorneys on her behalf when that person has so requested; 3) a state court can deny a disabled person the right to be represented by a lawyer of her choice without conducting a hearing to determine if she has the capacity to choose her own legal counsel.

According to Alan M. Anderson, a volunteer attorney with the MCLU, Sharon Kowalski's father has 30 days to file a response to the petition. The MCLU petition and any response will be presented to the Supreme Court on March 3 for a decision on whether the case will be accepted.

Sue Wilson, attorney for Karen Thompson, told *GCN* there are virtually no legal grounds on which to deny Sharon Kowalski the right to choose her own attorney, as no hearing has been held to judge her incompetent. However, Minnesota courts have consistently ruled that Kowalski is incapable of making such a choice.

Meanwhile, an appeal on the original decision instating Donald Kowalski as guardian is pending on the state appellate court level. Thompson remains optimistic the courts will eventually rule in her favor, removing Donald Kowalski as guardian, allowing her visitation rights to Sharon Kowalski and, thereby, the chance to aid in her recovery.

However, the tenor of proceedings show considerable bias against both disabled people and lesbian and gay relationships. In oral arguments January 22 in Minnesota appellate court, Donald Kowalski and his attorney, Jack Fena, argued against visitation for Thompson before three judges, two of whom have ruled against Thompson on previous motions. The strategy pursued by Fena — successful to this point — appears to center on delegitimizing the relationship between Thompson and Kowalski and stressing the latter's "incompetence." While Donald Kowalski has denied the two women were ever involved, Fena told *GCN* the question is irrelevant. "[Sharon Kowalski's] not gay. She's not straight," said Fena. "She's brain-damaged."

Fena and Donald Kowalski have been able to play Sharon Kowalski's sexuality both ways. For example, a significant piece of evidence against Thompson is a letter solicited from a Dr. William Wilson by Fena. The letter states Sharon Kowalski would be in danger of "sexual abuse" from Karen Thompson should visitation occur, due to evidence of a prior sexual relationship between the women. (See text of letter in box.)

Continued on page 3

August 20, 1985

Dear Mr. Fena,

As per your request for a medical report on Sharon Kowalski concerning her current medical and psychological condition and her ability to deal with visitation from Karen Thompson, this report is based on an extensive review of her medical and psychological evaluation since her accident on November 13, 1983...

[Sharon Kowalski] should be classified as a highly vulnerable adult who could easily be subjected to various forms of abuse, including manipulation and sexual abuse.... Miss Thompson has apparently been visiting Sharon on a regular basis for approximately the past week at the Leisure Hills Nursing Home.

According to affidavits and statements from individuals who observed this interaction at Park Point Manor [another health facility where Sharon Kowalski had resided], it has come to my attention that Karen Thompson was involved in bathing Sharon behind a closed door for a long period of time. It has also come to my attention that Miss Thompson has alleged a sexual relationship with Sharon Kowalski that existed prior to the accident.

Based on this knowledge and my best medical judgment concerning Sharon and her welfare, I feel that visits by Karen Thompson at this time would expose Sharon Kowalski to a high risk of sexual abuse....

Dr. William Wilson

News Notes

if it's queer, it's not olympic

SAN FRANCISCO — In a case between the promoters of the Gay Games and the United States Olympics Committee, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals here has ruled that the annual gay/lesbian sporting event cannot be called the "Gay Olympic Games." However, the court did overturn a $96,000 award to the official Olympics Committee to cover the cost of attorney fees, according to the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Shawn Kelly, the executive director of S.F. Arts and Athletics, believes the organizers will attempt to get the case heard by the entire 9th Circuit bench of judges. "That would be our last chance without going to the U.S. Supreme Court of arguing the case that we should be allowed to call ourselves the 'Gay Olympic Games.'"

According to Kelly, if the entire 9th Circuit Court refuses to hear the case, Judge John Vukasin, the lower court judge who originally made the award of attorney fees, will be required to determine whether the organizers of the Gay Games were using the word "olympics" in a "malicious, fraudulent, deliberate or willful" manner.

Kelly noted, "Our point, among others, is that 'olympics' is a graphic term that has been in use for thousands of years and that we should be entitled to use it under the First Amendment. What does freedom of speech mean if you can't use words that have been in existence since before this country was invented?"

— Janice Irvine

billie holiday to get walk of fame star?

HOLLYWOOD, CA — There is a move underway to get a star in Hollywood's Walk of Fame for Black jazz singer Billie Holiday. The Walk is a civic memorial to the achievements of entertainers, according to the Los Angeles *Reader*. Show business notables such as Norm Crosby, Baby Peggy, the Three Stooges, and many others are immortalized in the walkways.

Leonard Feather, jazz critic for the Los Angeles *Times*, is spearheading the drive for Billie's star. "It's been 27 years after Billie passed away and I know it's a symbolic gesture, but even the symbolic is important. I don't think you can overemphasize her influence on not only jazz singers but American popular singing as a whole. Most singers are influenced by her and don't even know it. You know, there's a star for Bugs Bunny; don't you think it's time Billie Holiday got one?"

— Janice Irvine

cdc: 'hands off safe sex'

SAN FRANCISCO — The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta have refused to review the new safe sex film, *All Hands on Dick, a Jack-Off Party*, according to the New York *Native*.

On Dec. 4, Ted McIlvenna, president of the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, sent the film to the director of the CDC, along with a press release calling the CDC's decision to temporarily freeze AIDS educational grants nationwide "totally irresponsible." The temporary freeze has been followed by new CDC guidelines aimed at weeding out "explicit" sexual content from safe sex educational materials. (See *GCN*, Vol. 13, No. 26.)

Officials of the CDC returned the package unopened and later said that they didn't know what was in it. Dr. Willard Cates, director of the Division of Sexually Transmitted Diseases, said, "In my medical training, [I] have seen many male masturbation films, and personally have no hang-ups about those. However, whether or not a project panel would approve that for federal funding, I doubt it, given the guidance as written by the CDC."

The film was sent to the CDC so that, while they were making funding decisions, they could see what types of educational materials exist, according to Clark Taylor of the Institute. "They're afraid of [U.S. Congressman William] Dannemeyer [R-CA] and those people who think that the government is funding pornography and pandering to homosexuals, helping them to fuck better."

Filmed last October on a $1,000 budget, *All Hands on Dick, a Jack-Off Party* offers advice on throwing successful j-o parties ("Don't let people stand in the kitchen and talk about work"), and shows several men engaged in kissing, nipple-tweaking, spanking, and mutual masturbation. It is aimed at "the mainstream gay culture," according to Taylor, and will be distributed through mail-order, adult bookstores, and video outlets.

The Institute recently completed another safe sex film, *Norma and Tony Explore the Safe Sex Guidelines*. It targets programs for drug users and portrays the relationship between a gay IV-drug user and a heterosexual woman.

— Janice Irvine

ohio considers quarantine bill

COLUMBUS, OH — The Ohio Legislature is considering a bill which would mandate a quarantine for people with AIDS, according to the *Gay News-Telegraph*. House bill 704 was introduced by State Representative Don Gilmore. It would require a quarantine for anyone diagnosed with AIDS, would mandate that state and local health officials monitor the activities of individuals with AIDS, and would prohibit any child with AIDS from attending school.

The Stonewall Union, a Columbus political group, is organizing opposition to the bill and hopes to avoid giving proponents of the legislation an opportunity to air their arguments on the House floor.

— Janice Irvine

aids testing for houses

LOS ANGELES — The California Association of Realtors has issued guidelines saying a home buyer should be told if the seller has AIDS. A Coldwell Banker memo to southern California agents last month instructed them to disclose the AIDS information to potential buyers, according to *The Weekly News*, a Miami gay paper.

"The reality is that agents are being sued and threatened with lawsuits if they do not disclose this [information about AIDS]," said Stephen Groome, an attorney for the realtors group. One lawsuit has already been filed in San Francisco, where a prospective home buyer demanded her deposit back and sued the seller and two real estate firms involved after learning that the seller has AIDS.

"The same rule would apply if there was a murder in the house," said Denis Bolen, senior vice-president of Coldwell Banker's Woodland Hills office. The fact that AIDS cannot be contracted from living in a house formerly occupied by a person with AIDS is not relevant, according to the Coldwell Banker memo, "because from the point of view of the buyer this fact [of the seller having AIDS] is clearly material."

Morris Kight, a member of Los Angeles County's Human Relations Commission, described the recommendations as "an unnecessary witch-hunt against homosexuals."

— Janice Irvine

boston city council joins coors boycott

BOSTON — The city council here unanimously passed a resolution to boycott Coors Beer. Coors, under attack since the late '70s for its homophobic, racist, and anti-union policies, is being boycotted nationally by numerous progressive groups.

The city council's January 15 resolution prohibits the city from promoting Coors and providing it at city functions. It also prohibits city employees from serving Coors when wining and dining official visitors.

Boston City Councillors David Scondras, Charles Yancey, Brian McLaughlin, Maura Hennigan, and Thomas Menino sponsored the resolution. Albert "Dapper" O'Neil, known for his overt racism and homophobia, apparently voted for the bill due to pressure from union leaders.

— Kim Westheimer

aids conference for health and service workers

NORTH ANDOVER, MA — A day-long conference entitled "AIDS: Practical Considerations for Health and Service Personnel," will be held here on Wednesday, March 26 at Merrimack College. Presented jointly by the Boston AIDS Action Committee, Visiting Nurse Association HomeCare, and Merrimack College, the conference is designed to meet the needs of professionals working directly with the public and will feature up-to-date information on AIDS and AIDS Related Complex (ARC).

The conference keynote address will be given by the Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health, Bailus Walker, Jr. Commissioner Walker will be followed by various speakers and workshops throughout the day.

Registration for the conference is limited and available by mail-in registration only. The fee of $45 includes admission to the morning plenary session and an afternoon workshop, lunch, and all workshop materials.

For conference and registration information, contact Ann Cerami at VNA HomeCare, 451 Andover Street, North Andover, MA 01845, (617) 686-1010.

— Janice Irvine

how to "ungay" yourself

READING, PA — For those looking to kick the habit, there is now a Homosexuals Anonymous (H.A.) in the tradition of Alcoholic Anonymous and Overeaters Anonymous. H.A. claims that gay people can use the 12-step program to "ungay" themselves, according to the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"Once a gay, always a gay is just not true," according to Colin Cook, a "recovered" homosexual. "No one is genetically, hormonally homosexual. We are not victims. We can make the choice not to be homosexual. It's an identity problem, rather than a sexual problem," said Cook. He claims that he recovered from his "addiction" in four years.

Homosexuals Anonymous has expanded in five years from one chapter in Reading, Pa., to 25 chapters, some of which are located in Canada and New Zealand.

— Janice Irvine

lesbian mayor for manchester

MANCHESTER, England — Newly-elected Manchester Mayor Margaret Roth is England's first openly lesbian mayor, according to *Au Courant* of Philadelphia. Roth, a member of Britain's Labour Party, will assume the highest executive office of Manchester, which has a population of over half a million.

When asked who would accompany her to official functions, Roth reportedly said that a party member from her ward would serve as an escort.

— Janice Irvine

gender and visual representation: a symposium

AMHERST, MA — As part of its two-year project on FEMINISM AND DIFFERENCE, the Five College Women's Studies Committee and Faculty Seminar announces a symposium on "Gender and Visual Representation," March 27-29, 1986 at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. The symposium will be preceded by a six-week series of film and video screenings on various campuses.

The faculty project on Feminism and Difference began at Hampshire College in December, 1985, with a symposium on "Race, Culture, Class: Challenges to Feminism," followed by a four-day faculty workshop. "Gender and Visual Representation," the second part of the series, explores cultural, political, and formal concerns of contemporary feminist filmmakers, video artists, and film theories. Subsequent programs will focus on sexuality (fall, 1986, Mount Holyoke College), reading gender in history (spring, 1987, Smith College), and feminist theory (fall, 1987, Amherst).

Those wishing to attend "Gender and Visual Representation" must register by February 10. For more information, contact Catherine Portuges, (413) 545-1922 or Joan Braderman, 549-4600, x 530.

— Janice Irvine

asian/pacific lesbian and gay library and more on the first asian gay conference

WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA — Asian/Pacific Lesbians and Gays is compiling a library of materials pertaining to various Asian and Pacific cultures. The library contains newspaper and magazine clippings as well as newsletters from gay and lesbian Asian groups. For more information, contact Fred Bradford, c/o A/PLG, Suite 109, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90046-5111.

* * *

TOKYO — The first Asian Gay Conference of the International Gay Association has been set here for May 1-3, 1986. The conference will include cinema and video programs, a panel discussion about gay scenes in both the days of Samurai and modern Japan, an AIDS seminar, and a play. The conference will take place in Japanese, but translators will be available.

There is a fee of 10,000 yen ($50) for overseas guests who want to participate. The conference organizers ask that anyone interested send reports about gay peopie in their country by the end of February, 1986.

For more information, contact: Teishiro Minami, 201 Hohyu Bldg. 2-11-9 Yotsuya Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo, 160 Japan. Telephone, (03) 359-8779.

— Janice Irvine

news notes compiled by janice irvine

Canada Censors U.S. Gay, Lesbian Magazines

By Kim Westheimer

OTTAWA — Customs officials here are preventing numerous gay and lesbian publications, most of which contain sexually explicit material, from entering Canada. Gay and lesbian activists are organizing against the Customs actions, which they charge discriminate against lesbian and gay material.

Under a law passed in Parliament in April of 1985, Customs officials can destroy any material passing over the border which portrays or describes "an act of buggery [sodomy] including depiction or description involving implements of all kinds." Interpreting this law as prohibiting publications which depict or describe anal sex, Customs has banned more than five hundred books, all of which were to be delivered to two gay and lesbian bookstores; Little Sister's Bookstore in Vancouver and Glad Day Bookstore in Toronto. Numerous lesbian and gay periodicals have also been prevented from entering the country.

In addition to seizing the books, Customs officials have censored magazines by tearing out pages that they deem obscene. When *Torso,* a gay male magazine, arrived at Little Sister's bookstore this month, 42 out of 75 pages had been ripped out of it, making it unsaleable.

Customs has asked magazines considered potentially objectionable to present layout before going to press, so they can be censored before they are printed. While some gay magazines such as *Blueboy* are complying with this request, others find it impossible. "We've stopped importing to Canada [as of November 1985] with great sorrow," John Knoebel, marketing director for the *Advocate,* told *GCN.* "We didn't sell all that many copies in Canada, but we believe in the dissemination of this information found in the *Advocate.*" Neither *The Advocate* nor *The Advocate Men*, an erotica magazine, are shipped to Canada any longer.

Other magazines which no longer ship to Canada include two Boston-based magazines by and for women: *Bad Attitude,* a lesbian sex magazine, and *Eidos,* a women's erotica journal. Thirty copies of *Bad Attitude* were destroyed by Customs in May of 1985.

If a publisher decides to let Customs censor his/her magazine before it is printed, there is no guarantee that the magazine will be free from further censorship, according to James McPhee of Glad Day Bookstore in Toronto. "Once a publisher makes those deletions, the magazine is still subject to policing at the border," said McPhee. "They may still physically rip out pages."

In addition, McPhee told *GCN* that the Ontario Advisory Committee on Contemporary Literature, a group hired by the periodical distributors to "protect retailers from prosecution [under local obscenity laws]," frequently rips more pages out of magazines once the magazines have passed through Customs.

Furthermore, books and magazines that are not stopped from crossing the border often reach bookstores in poor shape. Jim Deva, co-owner of Little Sister's bookstore, told *GCN* that all shipments to the store appear to be perused carefully by Customs, and that numerous books which are not being banned by Customs have been virtually destroyed by rough handling at the border.

Feminist bookstores, which carry some of the same publications being censored by explicitly lesbian and gay bookstores, do not appear to be harassed by Customs. Gloria Greenfield, a member of the Vancouver Women's Bookstore Collective, told *GCN* that Little Sister's in Vancouver is being targeted because it is known as a gay bookstore.

While Customs law makes no specific references to lesbian or gay sex, Customs officials are seizing primarily shipments of lesbian or gay books destined for lesbian and gay bookstores. Three Toronto heterosexual pornography bookstores, Times Square Books, Dallas Books and Toppers, told *GCN* that although they carry books and magazines depicting anal sex, no such publications have been detained by Customs. One of these bookstores carries a few gay magazines, such as *Blueboy,* but has not had a problem with Customs. Times Square Books stopped carrying gay magazines such as *Torso* and *Mandate* because it became too hard to get them into the country.

Art Atwood, the departmental assistant to the Canadian minister of national revenue, denies that gay men or lesbians are being discriminated against. "We're prohibiting displaying it [anal sex between gay men] in pictures, not the act itself," said Atwood, who insisted that portrayal of anal sex between heterosexuals is also prohibited. Atwood cited an additional partial list of acts he claims are banned from written material entering Canada as of passage of the April, 1985 law: sex between human beings and animals, sex between living persons and dead persons, sex between members of the same family other than husband and wife, a portrayal of rape, a portrayal of bondage, hate propaganda, and a portrayal of pain and suffering during sex.

Gay and lesbian anti-censorship activists are organizing against Customs' attack on lesbian and gay publications. Deva, of Little Sister's, said the people at that store are attempting to raise the $30,000 to $50,000 they think will be necessary to mount a court battle against censorship by Customs.

Glad Day Bookstore is also planning to appeal Customs' decisions. The first book-banning they intend to appeal is that of *The Joy of Gay Sex*, by Charles Silverstein and Edmund White, which was allowed into Canada from 1977 until 1985. Glad Day chose this book because it seemed easy to present to the public and most universal in its appeal.

Glad Day is also planning to fight the April, 1985 law which Customs uses to censor books. The law is scheduled for review in June of 1986.

— filed from Boston

'Saints' Lose License Bid

By Kim Westheimer

BOSTON — The women of the Saints collective lost their fight to obtain a liquor license transfer for their newly purchased building in Jamaica Plain, where they plan to house a women's health and social club. The decision against the license transfer was made unanimously by the three-person Boston licensing board on February 6.

The Saints, a working-class, interracial, lesbian collective, managed a Boston lesbian bar from 1972 to 1980. After leaving the bar they raised funds to purchase a building for their own club. Upon purchasing a building in December of 1985, they were faced with opposition by some Jamaica Plan residents who claimed they did not want a lesbian gathering place or any type of bar in their neighborhood.

Tom Stanton, secretary for the licensing board, told *GCN* that the Saints were denied a license transfer because of "concern about how the new license would impact on the common good." He cited concerns about parking, noise, and "the sudden intensity of use of a small, poorly attended club to a club with two hundred active members."

When asked if the board took into consideration that the club would operate regardless of the liquor license, Stanton said, "The board doesn't try to answer questions like that."

The board will draft a formal statement in the next week as to why the license was denied.

The Saints Collective told *GCN* in January (See *GCN*, Vol. 13, No. 27) that if they did not receive a liquor license the club would open as a juice bar, health club, and restaurant. They said they intended to feature art shows, concerts, films, videos, plays, and Sunday brunches at the new club.

The Saints could not be reached for comment after the licensing board decision.

Kowalski and Thompson

Continued from page 1

Dr. Wilson is a family practitioner with no experience dealing with disabled people or with rehabilitation techniques. According to Thompson, Dr. Wilson admitted in court that he has previously testified for Fena in personal injury suits. Wilson had visited Sharon Kowalski once before testifying that he feared Thompson's visits to her would result in abuse. Wilson would not speak with *GCN.*

Fena also argues that Thompson gave "negative messages" to Sharon Kowalski when she was allowed visitation. He told *GCN* Thompson made unfavorable statements about Sharon Kowalski's parents and compared Sharon Kowalski's situation to being in a "prison." Fena claims Thompson could have continued to see Kowalski if she had not been so "negative" and had not insisted on publicizing the case, actions which he claimed have "depressed" Sharon Kowalski. "It's a heart-rendering case," Fena said. "I feel sorry for Karen Thompson. But she brought it on herself."

Three other doctors also testified against Thompson in the case, all of whom will join Dr. Wilson in testifying for Fena, who was hired by Donald Kowalski to represent Sharon Kowalski in a personal injury suit against the bar that served alcohol to the driver who hit her. Thompson, the MCLU, and Sharon Kowalski's court-appointed lawyer have all filed motions to have Fena removed from the guardianship of the case due to conflict of interest. At the same time Fena opposes Sharon Kowalski in the guardianship case, he "represents" her in the personal injury suit in which his fee will depend largely on how badly injured he can make her appear to be. Fena told *GCN* he sees no conflict of interest in his position.

Thompson has been denied motions that Sharon Kowalski be retested for competency by a neutral party not also testifying in the personal injury suit. While Fena maintains "the evaluation was done by competent doctors," Thompson has been able to gather substantial evidence that Kowalski is far more competent than the courts have yet admitted. According to Sue Wilson, Sharon Kowalski "plays chess, and does complex math equations." Julie Andrzejewski, a member of the St. Cloud Committee on the Right to Recovery and Relationships, told *GCN* in a phone interview in January that Thompson's visits to Sharon Kowalski were a key factor in recovery of communications skills damaged by the accident.

The Minnesota Office of Health Facilities Complaints and a doctor not testifying in the personal injury suit have also testified to the value of Thompson's visits to Sharon Kowalski.

But despite conflicting reports that would seem to weigh in favor of a new competency test and a court hearing to evaluate results of testing, Thompson told *GCN*, "The courts swallowed the line that Sharon is a vegetable. And they say, 'If she's helpless, she needs her family.' They deny that our relationship meant anything."

Attorney Sue Wilson told *GCN* she is trying to establish the equivalent of a spousal relationship between Thompson and Sharon Kowalski. Wilson cited recent personal injury claims in which judges have upheld the rights of both heterosexual and gay/lesbian unmarried couples to collect damages. A spousal relationship would legally take precedence over a parent-child relationship.

The appellate court ruling on Thompson's appeal for visitation rights to Sharon Kowalski will be made within 90 days of the January 22 oral arguments. No action can be expected by the U.S. Supreme Court until March 3. Until that time, Karen Thompson will be prohibited from seeing Sharon Kowalski.

To make contributions toward covering Karen Thompson's legal expenses, send to: The Minnesota Society for Personal Liberties, c/o Suzanne Born, 3436 Holmes Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55408.

— filed from Boston

Timothy Lee

Continued from page 1

tell *GCN* that the Bureau had conducted an investigation, and that no arrests had been made and no charges had been brought.

FBI Reopens Investigation

On November 29, Ashley wrote a letter to the FBI asking them to investigate Lee's death. Included in that letter were statements from Carter, from Hannum and Callison, and from Lee's coworkers and roommate to the effect that he was not suicidal.

Agent Richard Held responded to Ashley's letter on January 7. He wrote, "Please be advised that the circumstances of Mr. Lee's death are being actively reviewed by the San Francisco office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation." Held's letter went on to say that any results of the FBI investigation would be forwarded to the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice for review and possible prosecution under the federal civil rights statute.

FBI spokesperson John Holford said the FBI investigation is being made "simply because of the request of the NAACP." Holford said, "We don't pick and choose what we investigate and what we don't." He denied that the Lee case had been previously investigated by the Bureau. Holford offered no explanation for his contradictory reports, and would not comment on the Lee investigation.

Even given these odd discrepancies, Ashley has confidence in the FBI investigation. "We have no reason to believe that the FBI wouldn't investigate this thoroughly. The NAACP has always cooperated with the FBI."

Fortes does not support the FBI investigation. She said that although "we [the Coalition] support the family of Tim Lee, and the family brought the NAACP in, and the NAACP brought the FBI in," a fully independent investigation into Lee's death is needed, and that that investigation needs to come from the Black and gay communities. "We're the victims of violence, and we're the only ones who can do something about it," Fortes said. Fortes added, "Personally, and I'm not speaking for the Coalition here, I just don't trust them [the FBI] enough to do a thorough investigation. The FBI is an agency of the Federal government, the same government that's fighting Miranda [the Supreme Court ruling which requires police to read arrested people their rights]. The FBI itself might be involved with the investigation by [Concord] law enforcement officials."

Ashley does not support an independent investigation. She said, "They're not telling me anything. Are they going to tell a private investigator anything? Is a private investigator going to be able to go in to the [Concord] police department?"

Whatever their differences, the Coalition and the NAACP agree that Lee was murdered. "I am thoroughly convinced that Lee was murdered," said Ashley. "Our theory is that Timothy Lee was accosted by two to three white youths, that a gun was put to his head and he was raped, that he was forced to perform oral copulation, and then was murdered." As evidence of the theory of rape, Ashley points out that the Lee family had asked for evidence of "anal and oral activity," and that the coroner's office refused to make public the results of such tests. "There are just too many discrepancies; it just doesn't make sense."

Further, Ashley said the people she has worked with in Concord "are afraid to talk, and afraid to go to the police" about the Lee case. She said she has received calls surrounding the case from over 30 people, and that "some have made statements that the police know who killed Tim Lee, and that there are members of the Klan on the police force." The Concord police would not return *GCN*'s calls for comment on this last allegation.

Both the NAACP and the Coalition are organizing around Lee's death. The Coalition has organized demonstration and has called for a community meeting on February 12 to plan further actions around this case and other attacks against gay men and lesbians, women, and people of color. The NAACP is going to the city of Concord on February 22 to meet with members of the community about how to fight against racial discrimination in housing and employment, and how to protect their community when, as Ashley said, people are "afraid to go to police and city officials."

— filed from Boston

Editorial

Our Movement Is No Place for Jew-hating

It is a long-standing tradition at *GCN* not to respond editorially to particular Speaking Outs or letters appearing in our Community Voices pages. Except in the case of personal attacks, that space is reserved for readers' opinions, and we on the staff agree to hold our tongues (despite our opinionated natures) and leave it to letter-readers to form their own judgments. This frustrates staff members when letters seem to some or all of us to perpetuate harmful stereotypes or promote bigotry of some kind. But sometimes it can be fruitful to expose prejudice to the light, where it can be answered and where it spurs people into action, rather than closeting it away while it continues to fester. Generally we assume that our readers will be aware of the strong stands against oppression in its various forms that we have taken in other parts of the paper, and can infer from these our likely responses to the letters.

However, a Speaking Out we published in late December about the experience of being Jewish in the U.S. at Christmastime and the responses to it raised some important issues and strong emotions among members of the staff; these issues and feelings relate to the specific experience of Jews in the U.S. and in the gay and lesbian movement and the specific ways "anti-Semitism," or institutionalized anti-Jewishness, is manifested. (We're choosing to use "anti-Jewishness" in recognition of the separate experiences and different oppressions of other peoples who also claim the name of "Semite.")

As we discussed our reactions, we realized that despite the large contribution of Jews to this newspaper over the years and the large number of us currently on staff, we have not been vocal on the subject of Jewish oppression. In fact, that very silence — as though the issue is either not important enough or too controversial to touch — seems in itself to be the kind of expression of anti-Jewishness that is all too common in our movement.

Therefore, we've decided to take this opportunity to "speak out" ourselves. We do so for a number of reasons. In part we want to support Jewish members of our staff and of our community. We want to acknowledge the deep-rooted fear many Jews feel, fear that making themselves visible as Jews will elicit hatred or scapegoating of the sort Jews have had to cope with for centuries; we want to reassure them that such bigotry will not go ignored or unchallenged in the progressive gay and lesbian community. And equally important, we want to remind ourselves and each other of the first rule of coalition politics: "an attack on one must be answered by all." Scapegoating, blaming one group and pitting others against it, runs counter to our vision of liberation.

Whether anti-Jewishness appears in subtle or overt form, it cannot be divorced from the history that most Jews carry always in the back of their minds. Some of us on staff lost relatives in the Holocaust. Some of us are the children of people who fled the pogroms — rape, murder, thievery — of Eastern Europe. And we know that the oppression of Jews did not begin with the Holocaust, or in this century. In the 1100s entire Jewish communities were destroyed in France. Jews were the victims of the Spanish Inquisition in the 1400s. Hundreds of thousands of Jews were killed in massacres in Poland in the 1600s.

Such oppression did not end with the closing of the concentration camps. We — Jew and gentile alike — have grown tired of hearing that Jews somehow brought this oppression on themselves, that oppression directed at Jews is harmless, or as is commonly asserted, that Jewish oppression no longer exists in this country or in this decade. Jews in the U.S. are currently being scapegoated as the financiers of the Midwestern farm crisis. Synagogues are being bombed in France and vandalized in the U.S. Jews in the Soviet Union are denied the freedom to emigrate. Paramilitary rightwing groups in the U.S., such as Posse Comitatus, use the same rhetoric used in the Holocaust to rationalize the "need" to exterminate the Jews, and the Ku Klux Klan places Jews high up on its hit list, along with Blacks, gay people, and other groups. (They see our common ground even when we fail to.)

Anger at Israel has often been used as a smokescreen for anti-Jewish sentiments; as progressives we must continually separate out and clearly articulate that support for the Jews as a people has nothing to do with upholding the policies of the Israeli state. We feel as free, but no freer, to criticize Israel than we do any other state (most especially our own) which supports rightwing causes around the world, including the contras' war on Nicaragua and apartheid in South Africa, or which has racist policies toward groups of people within its own borders. With complete consistency we can support the liberation struggles of Palestinians and oppressed peoples of color within this country, and support Jewish pride and an end to anti-Jewish violence, discrimination, and rhetoric as well.

Given the persistence of old stereotypes about Jews and money, media accounts that portray gay people as a new wealthy, propertied class that is somehow "taking over" in urban areas can give Jewish gay men and lesbians an ironic sense of deja vu. That can feel particularly absurd to those who, like the majority of people in this country, live on workers' wages — or especially, on women workers' wages — and rent their homes. Such bigoted stereotypes, whether they're applied to Jews, gay people, or any other group, are not only inaccurate, but are dangerous to us all.

We are committed to fighting class exploitation and to forming coalitions against oppression of all kinds. This requires us to be critical of those landlords and merchants who exploit other people, and to criticize any middle- and upper-class people who fail to ally themselves with those less privileged than themselves, whether the people falling into those categories are Christian or Jewish, gay or straight. Of course, the great majority of such people are white, Christian-raised, and straight. No statistics exist about the percentages of Jewish people in the U.S. working classes and middle classes. (Federal law prohibits the U.S. Census from asking questions which categorize Americans by religion, legislation supported by many Jews who fear such information could be used to round them up some day.) But detailed studies of the small, ingrown group that controls our country's largest corporations indicate that there is precious little room "at the top" for Jews, despite the persistence of stereotypes that they "run everything." In fact, there is substantial evidence that their exclusion is very conscious and deliberate. Of course we're not asking for "affirmative action" for Jews into a class we're out to abolish. Rather, we're pointing out that the powers-that-be are actively invested in perpetuating anti-Jewishness.

While the women's movement and some segments of the so-called "straight left" have taken up the issues of Jewish identity and anti-Jewish prejudice as these relate to their own communities, the gay and lesbian movement has produced little on the subject. We expect politically conscious lesbians and gay men to recognize that perpetuating anti-Jewish rhetoric — or remaining silent while others do so — promotes the same ideology and system of ranking that bolsters the status quo, providing encouragement to those who would queer-bash us, deny us our rights, or ghettoize any of us on the basis of our sexuality, class, or color. We encourage more dialogue on the subject in *GCN*'s pages.

GCN *editorials reflect the views of the paid, full-time staff collective.*

Community Voices

racist games

Dear *GCN*:

We are feeling isolated on the question of gay athletes and the Gay Games II. The San Francisco Organizing Committee doesn't answer our letter (see below). Could you give our views an airing in *GCN*? Here's an excerpt of a letter we sent to *Gay Pied Hebdo* about their article asking for support of the 1986 Gay Games:

"We are aware that a South African team has applied and been accepted to participate. Please remember that the International Gay Association at its July 1985 conference in Toronto decided to boycott the games, if the South African team's invitation is not revoked. The Scottish Homosexual Rights Group demanded that the South African athletes be excluded, but the Gay Games organizing committee has not reacted. Consequently, the SHRG has asked that no Scottish athletes participate in these racist games."

Best wishes and Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual regards,
Ian Dunn
Editor-in-chief, *Gay Scotland*

Jan Christro
President, Scottish Homosexual Rights Group
Edinburgh, Scotland

GCN welcomes letters to the editor. If possible, they should be TYPED and DOUBLESPACED, and where possible limited to five typed pages. They should be sent to: Community Voices, *GCN*, 167 Tremont St. #5, Boston, MA 02111.

petite and flaming in florida

Dear *GCN*:

I need help bad. I'm in "Protective Custody" in a Florida prison and my civil rights are being violated in many ways.

I have been denied legal assistance because I'm in PC and have gotten several 'write ups' [disciplinary reports] for refusing to work around other inmates who have already assaulted me and threatened to do so again. These write ups will put off my release date.

I have been in PC for 4 years because I'm a petite, flaming homosexual and refuse to be demoralized and change my ways to satisfy this unjust system. I have been raped and beaten and have only been punished for this because they said I should change my ways.

I'm in the process of lodging war against the prison system here and cannot get legal help. I need a "Prisoners Self-Help Litigation Manual" badly [available from Oceana Press, 75 Main St., Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522, for $14 if sent directly to a prisoner]. Maybe someone out there can help this rockhead, proud-to-be-flaming fag, regain my birth-given civil rights.

Thanks. Sincerely,
Greg Thomas
081916
PO Box 1500 (No.297)
Cross City, FL 32628

[GCN Prisoner Project note: This Self-help Litigation Manual is excellent and would be a fabulous gift for any prisoner. The $14 price is for prisoners only.]

Defense Committee Update

A **coordinating committee** meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11 at 7:30 p.m. at 67 Pleasant St. in Cambridge. New members are particularly welcome. An **orientation for new members** will be held at 7:00.

The Gay and Lesbian Defense Committee has announced the formation of a **defense fund** to pay the legal costs of the lesbians and gay men recently arrested in the State House. The GLDC estimates that at least $2-3,000 will be needed initially. The defense fund will be ongoing, because the struggle will continue and future arrests are likely to occur.

Send checks made out to the Gay and Lesbian Defense Committee (or GLDC) to: PO Box 225, West Somerville, MA 02144. Your support in these critical times is essential. Thank you.

GayCommunityNews

Cover graphic by Michael Leonard

Cover design by Loie Hayes

Gay Community News is produced by a collective dedicated to providing coverage of events and news in the interest of gay and lesbian liberation. The collective consists of a paid staff of eleven, a general membership of volunteers, and a board of directors elected by the membership. The paper is published weekly (except a week in December and a week in August) by the Bromfield Street Education Foundation, Inc., a non-profit corporation.

Opinions reflected in "editorials" represent the views of the paid staff collective. Signed letters and columns represent the views and opinions of the authors only. We encourage all readers to send us comments, criticism, and information, and to volunteer and become members.

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Postmaster: Send address chenges to: Gey Community News, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl. Boston, MA 02111.

Community Voices

last resort

Dear *GCN*:

Seeing your ads for resorts reminds me of a letter I've been meaning to write for a long time. A year and a half ago, my lover and I decided to take a wonderful fall vacation to New England — maples turning red and gold, cozy fireplaces, and other lesbian/gay vacationers. We read the *GCN* ads carefully and decided on the Highlands Inn; it sounded lovely and was owned by two women.

Imagine our surprise and dismay after travelling 1500 miles to find we were the *only* lesbian/gay guests! Perhaps we were naive, but nonetheless I would advise anyone patronizing the resorts listing in *GCN* to inquire as to the general makeup of that resort's clientele if this is important to you.

Name withheld upon request
Minneapolis, MN

a gentle man is murdered

Dear *GCN*:

I was a friend of Russ Cross, the man who was murdered in Medford on December 28, 1985. I applaud *GCN* for timely and professional reporting. No other gay publication covered the story. Is it not the responsibility of such publications to keep the community informed? If for no other reason, to prevent this from happening to just one other person. It should make us all think twice.

Knowing the victim, he gave so very much to everyone whose life he touched, a gentle and compassionate man who will be missed in very many ways by so very many.

Again, thank you for being attuned to the community's needs.

Brandon Parks
Boston, MA

Correction

Last week's Speaking Out entitled "A Response to Andrea Dworkin" by Priscilla Alexander ran an incorrect address for COYOTE. The correct address is P.O. Box 26354, San Francisco, CA 94126. We regret the error.

more to it than homophobia

Dear *GCN*:

On behalf of the residents who surround the Saints, I feel compelled to provide your readers with several clarifications about the opening of the reconditioned club. For openers, late-night disruptions from the previous club (which had a dwindling membership) repeatedly plagued the neighborhood. Mindful of this experience, we have been anxious to facilitate a new use for the building which would harmonize with the residential character of the area. The prospect of two hundred (or more) loitering and carousing patrons streaming out of the club at I a.m. is profoundly disturbing to us.

To explain away our objects as "blatant homophobia" is a painful distortion. Only *one* speaker, to my knowledge, uttered in public the unfortunate anti-lesbian remarks cited in the article, and that individual happened to be a woman. The article suggests there were several comments of that nature and, to my amazement, only identifies such "homophobic" persons as men. Surely an aversion to homosexuality has incited some opposition to the liquor license, but why not at least mention how some lesbians have complimented their neighbors for the respectful tenor of our lengthy public exchanges on this controversy; and why not at least allow a neighborhood person to respond within the article to the accusation from the Saints collective that "opponents to the club are keeping their homophobia under cover now because it would be detrimental to them in the licensing hearing."

Such comments needlessly and irretrievably polarize the collective and its neighbors. They also deprive us of the opportunity to disavow in your publication any association with prejudice directed against gay men and lesbians while we simultaneously oppose the presence of a large disco-bar in this densely-settled residential location.

Respectfully,
Jeff Cronin
Jamaica Plain, MA

a homosexual norman mailer?

Dear *GCN*:

From Robin Lippincott's assessment of Tim Barrus's *My Brother, My Lover,* being not unlike Lizzie Borden's alleged rendering of parenthood, I beg to differ.

As Lippincott makes no mention of Barrus's place in gay literature, I shall.

Barrus, some say, is a megalomaniac. To others he is an egomaniac. A maniac in any event. The facile saying is that Barrus is gay writing's bad boy. But that opinion drips with class prejudice.

I think it very curious that those who most prefer to think of themselves as progressives, as hotbeds of proletarian consciousness, most despise the works of writers who must compose for money. They seem always to prefer the scribblings of those privileged to hobnob with the leisure class on Fire Island.

Barrus is a working writer — as a perusal of any number of back issues of gay monthly magazines will demonstrate. He doesn't write for a clique which runs a self-appointed "literary magazine" that doesn't pay freelance writers. Is that an oblique slam at Ethan Mordden and *Christopher Street*? No, Mary. I mean those three other magazines.

Barrus does it for the money. Ask him. As if Mr. White's sense of artistry drove him to produce a heterosexual novel. Are times that tough at *Vogue*?

One of the things that Barrus has done, no doubt for the money, is *Mineshaft*, a novel issued in pulp by MagCorp as, supposedly, a sadomasochistic stroke book. The joke is on MagCorp and those who snub books which, judged by their covers, are written for the mass (cheap pornography) market. *Mineshaft* is the finest satire in gay literature. As Aaron Travis, formerly editor of *Drummer,* noted the first chapter was to sell the book to the swine and the rest is all pearls.

It's out of print. You missed it.

Barrus claims to be the spiritual heir of Tennessee Williams. In fact, his work is more like that of a homosexual Norman Mailer — a comparison which I admit is hardly fair on either end of it and which I understand will hardly be taken as praise in some quarters. Nonetheless, there is an awesome authenticity in Barrus's voice which, I imagine, is frightening to those who must evaluate art against a one-dimensional standard of political rectitude.

A case in point: Lippincott takes Barrus to task for being "authorially misogynistic."

Needless to say, a lesbian writer need only chant "Patriarchy, patriarchy," or hint darkly that her uncle may have goosed her once while hoisting her onto his sexist lap and, as if by magic, she is exculpated for all her misadrious expressions. Indeed, a number of well-received volumes from "wimmyn's" presses contain little more than page after page of anti-testicular invective.

Barrus is charged, for example, with writing, "We did not like girls."

Of course, he does not mean "girls" in the general case because anyone who has bothered to read much Barrus knows he admits to loving Kree Barrus and that he loves Kree Barrus more than he admits. And Kree Barrus, like most girls — or perhaps you prefer "small wimmyn" — loves her father very much.

I am overcome by the flashback to my draft physical. I did acid for it. I checked the box that indicated I had homosexual relations. The army psychiatrist asks me over and over if I didn't really like girls. Through the fog of the blue blotter, somehow, I know he isn't asking me if I don't think women ought to have equal pay for equal work. He is not asking me if I don't think women should have control over their own bodies. He doesn't mean don't I think that women ought to be electricians or truck drivers or congresspersons.

He means, wouldn't I really rather stick my dick in a cunt rather than some guy's hairy asshole. The answer is still no.

I don't like women...to do my laundry, to cook my meals, to soothe my brow after a nasty call from my publisher, to go to the store, to manage my money,...or to come in my bar when there are perfectly good women's bars in this town, to expect me to do their job for them just because they bat their painted eyelashes at me, or to come to my place in smelly leotards after dance class expecting to cure me.

I suppose in Boston men are never subject to unwanted sexual advances from women. Since Lippincott criticizes Barrus for allowing his characters to refer to women as pussies, I suppose there never was such a thing as a Boston lesbian who referred to men as pricks. Lippincott's ultimate paragraph demands truth and authenticity from gay writers. Here in the hinterland, and I would guess in Barrus's Key West, the authentic truth is that some women trade on their sex, some women expect special consideration in the workplace on account of their sex, some women see a gay man as a sexual challenge, and some old queens refer to such women as something worse than "pussies."

My Brother, My Lover is one from Barrus's heart. Lippincott faults Barrus's book for failing to deal with the issue of incest.

First, incest is fundamentally a heterosexual concept. It has no relevance to homosexuality.

Second, to cast the issue in terms of incest is to miss altogether the point of Barrus's work. Sean Patrick and Thomas did not consider the issue of incest. They did not suppose it was incest. They knew only that they loved one another as they could love no one else. Sex became a part of that. Barrus's book is not about incest. It is about the union of love and sexuality. Perhaps if we remove a few of the trees, Lippincott can perceive the forest.

No doubt the work seems cliched to one who has, to use a cliche, been too long at the fair.

Sincerely,
Lars Eighner
Austin, TX

Coordinating Editor

Gay Community News is currently accepting applications for the position of Coordinating Editor (available April-May 1986). We welcome inquiries about the job.

Responsibilities: Coordinate the paper's overall administrative, personnel, and financial affairs, and fundraising activities. Prepare editorial/letters pages. Serve as liaison between staff and board of directors, and as necessary, serve as paper's spokesperson. **Qualifications:** Strong administrative, organizational, and interpersonal skills. Familiarity with *Gay Community News* helpful. All *GCN* positions require a commitment to gay/lesbian liberation, feminism, anti-racist and anti-classist politics, and the collective decision-making process.

Salary/Benefits: $160/week + fully paid health/life insurance, sick leave, and four weeks' paid vacation. All *GCN* positions offer staff members responsibility for their own jobs, with some flexibility and ample room for innovation.

To apply, please send resume and cover letter A.S.A.P. to: Search Committee, *GCN*, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111.

Lesbians and gay men of color are particularly encouraged to apply.

Freelance Typesetter
(Part-Time)

GCN is looking for a freelance, part-time typesetter to coordinate the paper's revenue-producing outside typesetting business. *Responsibilities include:* typeset outside work and schedule other typesetters; serve as contact person for clients and respond to inquiries; prepare periodic billings and maintain the necessary financial records; coordinate scheduling needs with the in-house typesetter to avoid conflicts, and keep coordinating manager informed about the business; and contact repair service as necessary. *Qualifications*: Good typesetting skills, preferably on a Compugraphic 7500 Editwriter, and strong organizational, interpersonal, and recordkeeping skills with attention to detail. Familiarity with *GCN* and local progressive movements helpful.

Hours: 10-20 hours/week (Fridays, evenings, and weekends)

Salary: $8/hour and some benefits.

To apply, please send resume and cover letter ASAP to: Typesetting Search Committee, *GCN*, 167 Tremont St., #5, Boston, MA 02111.

Gay men and lesbians of color particularly encouraged to apply.

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N.Y. Film Fest Wrap-up

By Nicholas Deutsch

Of the 31 films at this year's New York Gay Film Festival, I saw 17 (and two-fifths). Of the films about gay men or gay male sensibility, I missed two new ones — Koji Kamota's *More and More Love* (Japan) and Caogero Salvo's *Three by Three* (U.S.A.) — and skipped two repeats from past festivals. Sarah Schulman has already summed up her thoughts on the Festival's selection of lesbian films (See *GCN*, Vol. 13, No. 28); here are a few notes on the male ones.

I found myself longing for the simplest of things, a film which featured a central, loving relationship between or among men who were self-identified as gay.

With the exception of the closing night "sneak preview" of Bill Sherwood's *Parting Glances* (U.S.A., to be reviewed later), there weren't any outstanding "hits" at this year's Festival. Of the films I saw, I enjoyed a great many, hated a couple, and was glad that all the experimental films — even those that left me cold — were being shown. Did the Festival pass over interesting films in its selection? I don't have enough inside information to say. Certainly mainstream films with "crossover" potential probably had already been snapped up for distribution (this was true of the excellent English film *My Beautiful Laundrette*) and were thus unavailable. As for experimental and low-budget work, perhaps expanding the scope of the Festival to include video might extend the range of styles and subjects.

I liked the range of countries and subject matter represented — always keeping in mind the shortage of films about people of color — and didn't object (as some did) to the inclusion of a film like Youssef Chahine's *Alexandria... Why?*, which, while featuring only slight gay content, was a breakthrough for gay visibility in the context of Egyptian filmmaking. This seems to me reason enough to choose a film; it's

Continued on page 10

The Angelic Conversation

The Festival program note for Derek Jarman's *The Angelic Conversation* calls it "his most difficult film," and says that Jarman "seems to be developing an increasingly rarified aesthetic." They're not kidding. For an hour and a quarter, we watch images of two of Jarman's (male) friends against various indoor and outdoor settings. These images have been altered and manipulated so that most of the film looks like a series of blown-up stills; the effect is both grainy and hallucinatory. On the soundtrack, there are eerie fragments of music by Coil, and occasionally bits of Shakespeare's love sonnets — the ones addressed to a young man — read by Judi Dench.

Most of the audience at the single Festival showing of *The Angelic conversation* stayed to the end — the truth-in-advertising policy no doubt kept most potential walkouts away — and there was some applause afterwards. I tried hard, but was less enraptured. It wasn't the slow pace or abstract nature of the film that bothered me, but the fact that most of its possible meanings seemed to be somewhere else, perhaps still inside Jarman's head. For each memorably sensual image, there were nine that merely left me puzzled. One of the simplest sequences was for me the most beautiful: a series of shots of one man swimming, set to music from Britten's sea opera, *Peter Grimes*. As a whole; however, the film didn't really convince.

— *Nicholas Deutsch*

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Carl Wittman: An Activist's Life

By Michael Bronski

I received a phone call last Wednesday telling me Carl Wittman had just died. We had heard that he had been diagnosed several weeks before as having AIDS, but that his prognosis admitted a possible 18 more months. My ability to deny was more than willing to accept this as fact, and his sudden death came as even more of a shock.

Before I had ever met Carl he was sort of a fantasy figure to me. I had first read his "A Gay Manifesto" in the early 1970s. It was an astute analysis/call to action that was even more remarkable because it was written almost a year before the Stonewall Riots. Here was someone who viewed being gay in solidly political terms, and who also was not afraid of mentioning sex. In fact, sexuality was an integral part of his analysis: it was sex that gave lesbians and gay men the vision, the fervor, and the energy to fight for their lives and to live them.

Carl's vision of sexual freedom embraced such unpopular — in 1968 — notions as sexual objectification, s/m, sex with animals, and inter-generational sex. I once told Carl that when first reading his manifesto, I became so excited, sexually and intellectually, that my lover and I ended up having sex before finishing the piece. He seemed pleased.

It was no surprise that "A Gay Manifesto" was potent and clear politics. Before Carl became involved in gay liberation, before he was involved in San Francisco's hippie counter-culture, he was one of the movers and shakers of the New Left, especially as the National Secretary of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). As a student at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, he became involved with the civil rights movement, organizing desegregation sit-ins in Chester, Pa.

While much of the left was still focusing on purely economic issues, Carl saw the need to reach out to the whole person, to all of the community. In a position paper written for the Economic Resource Action Project, Carl, along with Tom Hayden, wrote that community organizing should be inclusive of all people: poor, Black, white, young, old; and that organizing ought to happen around *any* issue which moves them or touches their lives. The paper ended with the caution, still relevant to anyone doing political work today: "We are people and we work with people."

In my political/cultural mythology Carl remained this larger-than-life figure: someone who had been doing things before others had even begun thinking about them. But knowing Carl, the fantasy made flesh, was a different experience. The keen mind that wrote "A Gay Manifesto" was even more perceptive and challenging in real life. Probably the most refreshing aspect of talking to Carl was his relentless honesty of inquiry and his deep-seated suspicion of any "correct" political line. Any discussion with Carl was always open-ended, seemingly limitless in how much it could encompass. Any politcal question became an exploration of how he felt, how you felt, how people lived their lives.

It was the *living* of the life that was so important to Carl. Discussing books or films with him, or watching him enjoy music — something he could become ecstatic about — was a pleasure in itself. And Carl had the ability to communicate and share his own pleasure with those around him.

The last time he was here, Carl said he was bored with politics; I could see that he was certainly bored with talking about things in political terms. From his earliest work Carl had attempted to wed his politics to his life. I don't think I know anyone who has been more successful in doing this. After he left San Francisco and moved to Wolf Creek, Oregon, he was instrumental in starting *RFD*, a magazine focusing on gay men's experience with rural lifestyles and radical/fairie politics. In Oregon, and later in Durham, N.C., he worked hard to set up food co-ops for the community. And recently in Durham he was active in setting

Continued on page 11

Walta Borawski

Carl Wittman

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(Reprinted from Real Paper, "Best of Boston," Fall, 1980)
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Male
In His O

Hercules Dressing for the Arena by Delmas Howe from *The Male Nude*

By Michael Bronski

Studies of the male nude have always played a part in gay male life and culture. In reading the memoirs of such Victorian homosexuals as Edward Carpenter or John Addington Symonds we can see the importance that classical Greek statuary had in both the discovery and the affirmation of their sexuality. They usually spoke of this connection as a longing for the purer life of Attic civilization, but that was a delusion which even they recognized — the position of slaves and women hardly qualified Classical antiquity as an ideal of freedom. What they were really interested in were the finely tuned muscles, the broad shoulders, and the firm, full buttocks which characterized the male nudes which filled the British museum.

In more recent times the patina of "Classical art" made other representations of nude men acceptable and safe. Probably the most obvious are the copies of Michelangelo's *David*, which could be found in any number of 1950s gay men's homes. With or without a fig leaf — and some copies are so sloppy that the Old Testament hero vacillates between having a foreskin and not — *David* was clearly *art*.

On a slightly more disingenuous level, many of the early gay muscle magazines, like *Physique Pictorial,* would pose their models in imitation of Classical statutes, usually photographed from the side to give only a glimpse of butt and to cleverly hide any dangling genitalia: it may have been art, but it still had to get through the postal services. In the same popular vein, but 20 years later, soft-core porn — *Blueboy, Honcho, Mandate* — cashed in on the new freedom of the press and gave their readers nude after nude after nude.

Male Figure Drawing by Philip Core *The Male Nude*

While male nudes have been available in the porn world for the past few decades, the contemporary art world has been reluctant to mirror that impulse. (The very split between the two "worlds" shows how eager our culture is to still separate "good nudes" from "bad nudes.") But recently the male nude, and semi-nude, has become more acceptable, a serious subject for "art." A good deal of this is due to gay male artists being more able — and willing — to paint what interests them, and also to the ever-growing gay press, which was ready to take changes and publish quality books. In the past year there have been three new books dealing with the male figure — most nude, all sexual.

The Male Nude: A Modern View, edited by Francois de Louville and Edward Lucie-Smith, presents a wide and scattered view of contemporary male nudes. The book includes such prominent artists as Duncan Grant and Leonard Baskin, the work of half a dozen women artists, as well as pieces by openly gay male artists such as Philip Core, David Hockney, Mario Dubsky, and David Hutter.

In an otherwise informative introduction, Lucie-Smith credits the second wave of feminism, rather than the advent of gay/lesbian liberation, with loosening social taboos on male nudes. And to be sure, his remarks on the women artists are quite insightful and telling. He claims, for instance, that a male nude by a woman is more likely to be a portrait of a particular *man* rather than a study of a *male* body. Certainly the pictures reproduced here are good examples of his theory: Sandra Fisher's picture of her husband, *Kitaj in Jerusalem*, is a stunning portrait, as well as a nice reversal of all of those old masters who would trot out their mistresses to be revealed before the world. Yet while there has never been enough attention paid to women artists, and the effects of feminism upon culture have yet to be acknowledged or reckoned with, Lucie-Smith underestimates both the effect of gay/lesbian liberation and some of the important effects that our movement may have had upon gay artists.

> Our inherited conventions for representing the nude...have now for several centuries been based on the female rather than the male body.... It is surprising how narrow the range of basic poses seems to be — poses which express allure, invitation, vulnerability, surrender. When the male body assumes these poses the result can seem jarringly androgynous.... If the homosexual artist decides to discard all these conventions, he seems apt to go too far in the other direction, producing images of exaggerated force. In either case...his art is corrupted by sentimentality — a falseness of feeling which can undermine even the most considerable technical powers.

Yet while it is true that any number of male nudes do follow the accepted conventions, many — particularly those by gay artists and perhaps especially by those who are out about being gay — avoid these pitfalls and present us with new images which are not simply imitations of female nudes. And when the images are forceful or even brutal, they are not, as Lucie-Smith fears, exaggerated images of traditional masculinity, but rather, a new way of envisioning and depicting *gay* men.

Part of the problem with *The Male Nude* is that almost none of the male artists are identified as gay. Of course, David Hockney is out, and since Hutter, Dubsky, Core, and Dureau have published books with London's Gay Men's Press, we assume that they, too, are gay, but generally this is not mentioned in the biographical notes. All of these artists — and others in the book, whom I presume to be gay — are represented by work which is both original, non-derivative, and quite clearly a product of a gay sensibility and gay identity.

The pieces by David Hutter seem to be a good example of male nudes which do not fall into any category. They are not posed in the conventions of the female nude, and yet they are not aggressively butch or defensively guarded: the torsos and genitals are exposed, the figures seem to be at rest with themselves and the situation. There is a certain openness and appreciation of the male form which seems quite free from what are usually thought of as traditional male attitudes.

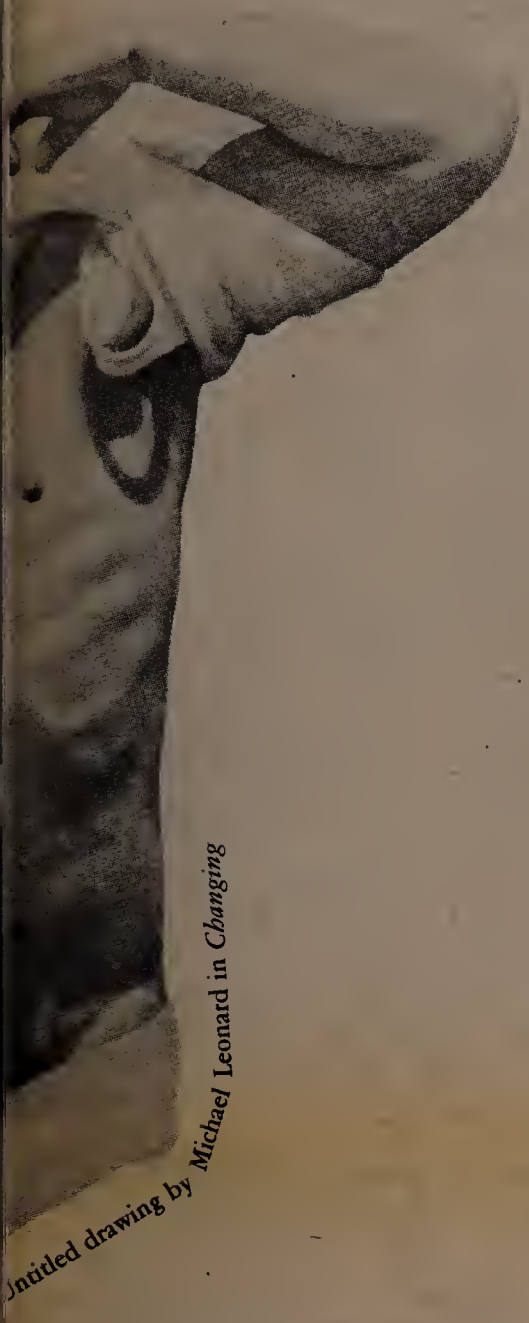
The same is also true of the two litho prints by the Italian artist Aldo Semenzato. Both are of seated men, one nude, the other clothed in jeans, boots, and a leather jacket. There is an immediate response here to two aspects of gay male iconography. What is liberating about the nude — still, after all these years of porn magazines — is simply his nakedness, that his cock and balls are visible and natural, with no embarrassment or apology. The picture is a simple affirmation of the beauty of male sexuality, unburdened by the usual cultural baggage.

The second print — with its slightly s/m ambiance — could easily be in a soft-core porn magazine. All of the accoutrement, boots, and jacket, do not seem to be a revolt against androgyny but, rather, the depiction of a specifically gay image. The image is highly sexualized — much like that of the corresponding nude — but the excitement rests more on the context of the male body than in merely showing it unclothed. Like the drawings of Tom of Finland, these two pictures are not trying to be natural: they are not *just* male semi-nudes, but are trying to engage and entice the viewer's sexuality.

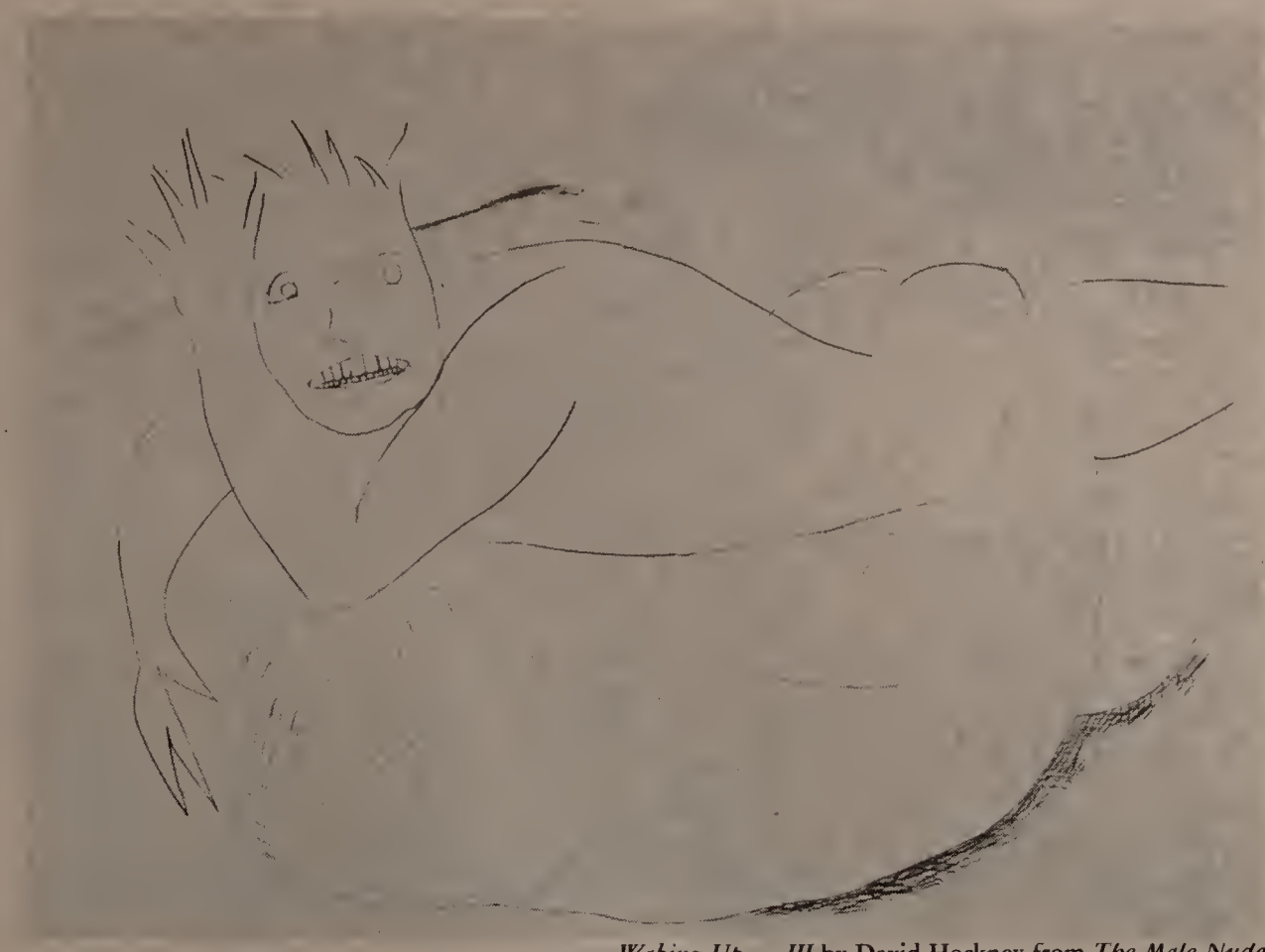
Nudes, both male and female, have always been implicitly erotic. The Classical and religious settings that many of them historically have appeared in have been little more than excuses. Certainly in our post-Freudian, not to mention post-Dr. Ruth, age this should be clearer than ever, but there still seems to be some stigma — even in gay art circles — against admitting the overriding presence and importance of sexuality.

Three acrylics on canvas by Texas-born painter Delmas Howe are perhaps the most shocking in all of *The Male Nude.* Using realistic depictions of rodeo scenes, the painter has placed nude men in the midst of the activity. To enhance the hyper-stylization of the context, he has given the pieces clearly mythological titles: *Theseus and Perithous at the Chutes, Zeus and Ganymede, Hercules*

Nudes: wn Image



Untitled drawing by Michael Leonard in *Changing*



Waking Up — III by David Hockney from *The Male Nude*

Dressing for the Arena. Howe presents us not only with nudes — and nudes which are obviously out of place in their settings — but has placed them in a context, the worlds of the Classical and cowboy myths, which can only amplify and enhance the sexual nature and impact of the paintings.

So many of the nudes in art are isolated, abstracted as studies against white backgrounds. Our response to them may be sexual, but it is not supported or encouraged by references to the everyday realities, or fantasies, of our own sexual experiences. By supplying a mythical, fantasy context, Howe has begun to construct a sexuality, and a way of viewing that sexuality, which are usually only implicit when we think of the male nude.

Michael Leonard published a book of 50 drawings, *Changing*, several years ago with Gay Men's Press. These were mostly of men in various stages of undress, either removing or putting on clothes, all in ambiguous, slightly sexual situations. The drawings are startling because they give the appearance of catching his subjects in mid-motion, unaware; there is the indication of voyeurism in each of his drawings. Many of these same portraits appear in his new book *Paintings*; the black-and-white drawings are now filled with warm flesh-tones and the brown and gray backgrounds flash with subdued but brightly colored clothing.

Edward Lucie-Smith has also written the introduction to *Changing*. Here he states: "...*Changing* is, among other things, an unashamed hymn to male beauty. But it would seem to be a tremendous pity if people insisted on seeing in it the homoerotic, or even the erotic element alone." The implication is that Leonard is *more* than a drawer of nude men; he is an artist. In fact Leonard is a highly skilled artist whose technique and vision form a perfect blend of style and eroticism.

The power of Leonard's drawings and paintings is the power of the erotic. Where Delmas Howe has placed the sexual content of his pictures in a specific context, Leonard is vague. His figures are modern — they are taking off, or putting on, jeans and shirts — but they are lost in a dreamscape; there are no specific references to relationships, to situations, or even to sexuality. The men are stopped in time, left to linger there for the viewer to supply context, fantasy, or motive. Because the drawings and paintings have the illusion of being concretely representational — they are done from Leonard's own photograph — the impulse to supply a reality is even greater than if we were looking at a more open-ended technique or image.

Because most of Leonard's nudes are suspended in mid-time, there are no climaxes or resolutions here. Like more abstract images, these drawings and paintings do not bring immediate emotional closure or satisfaction, we are left to dwell, and rethink, even to re-imagine. The pictures insist that we incorporate not only the male beauty — but the actions of those endowed with that attribute — into our imaginations and experience. While Delmas Howe provokes from the outside — we try to understand what his juxtaposed images mean to him, and how they relate to us — Leonard attacks from the inside: it is up to us to supply the context and the meaning. Like all great art, it is subversive as well as pleasurable.

The newly collected *Drawings of the Male Nude* by Don Bachardy are more straightforward than Leonard's drawings. These are friends, posed casually and captured by the artist as erotic portraiture. Many of the sitters are named, and it is clear that these are not anonymous nudes but specific men who are allowing both the artist, and us, to see a more open, vulnerable side of themselves. The amazing aspect of Bachardy's art is the total trust between sitter and artist — and viewer — which the drawings convey. This is art which is nurtured by, and intended for, the gay male community. Many of the men are looking staight out from the page, there are a few smiles and sometimes almost a look of defiance, daring us to respond to the invitation of their nakedness.

Bachardy manages to present very sensual, sexy pictures of men. It is clear that all these men are being seen through the eyes of someone who finds them, and the male form, sexually exciting. To be faced with this vision — the artist turned on — is to come face to face with the existence of gay lust/love. This requires not only trust and honesty on the part of the subject, but a great deal of the same from the artist — along with the integrity not to betray, or cheapen, his feelings or those entrusted to him. This complex relationship tells us more about gay artists, their models and their audiences than most essays written to analyze or explain.

The nudes in Philip Core's *Paintings, 1975-1985* are juxtaposed with imaginary, serious camp manifestations of gay history. In *'Don't Look Around': Violet Trefusius and Vita Sackville West*, the women share a drawing room filled with semi-symbolic objects of their relationship and lives. *'Cheri': Jean Cocteau and Colette Willy* has the two writers breakfasting together; lost in thought, they seem to be contemplating their separate lives and the literary and psycho/sexual connections between them. The wealth of imagination in these paintings is emblematic of Core's male nudes. These are fantasy pictures, grounded in a reality, yet created by a fervent imagination that places them not only in a personal framework, but also catches a historical or social *Zeitgeist*.

Several years ago Core authored a book entitled *Camp: The Lie that Tells the Truth*. His subtitle succinctly captures the basic metaphor for his paintings. The portraits are imagined meetings which convey a deeper relationship than expected. The nudes and semi-nudes are also cloaked in layers of meaning and image. Most often they are dark and murky, brooding with half-implied threats and violence. The male figures together, as in *The Quarrel* or *The Snake Tattoo*, are all interacting in tense situations which are obviously sexual, but are not being acknowledged as such. The iconography here is post-Genet, hypermasculinity simmered to a crisis point. Other paintings such as *Dreaming Skinhead* or *Psychosis* show solitary figures masturbating, in private reveries. Most of the writing about Core places him, because of his youth in New Orleans, next to Tennessee Williams. And while this seems geographically correct, Core's admission to enjoying Edgar Allen Poe as a child gives a better clue to his interests and style. Williams is, generally, more concerned with his women characters than his men. The dark images of masculinity, and of male sexual feelings and behavior, are much closer to the obsessional and death-wrought imagery of Poe.

What Core has done is to take the tone of Poe — which is much more homoerotic than generally acknowledged — and mix it with gay male and s/m images. Here are the jeans, boots, and sullen looks, but they are placed in truly dangerous settings, psychologically as well as physically. Much of s/m art attempts to excite us through the use of fetishes — whips, chains, chaps, harnesses, and tit-clamps — which are presented as being part and parcel of a healthy and vibrant sexuality; they are a celebration of the physical manifestations of sexuality. Although Core's use of fetishes is generally minimal, he is dealing with the same material here, but from a psychological point of view. He is more interested in how it feels, rather than what it looks like. As a result his paintings are much more disturbing. They represent the trepidation many of us feel about our sexual fantasies. The lie here is the fact that these images are nothing more than paint on a canvas — the lie of all art. But the psychological truth runs deeper and darker than many people would like to imagine. Like Poe, Core is not interested in simple images or explanations: his paintings may celebrate, but they celebrate the pleasure that may be found in the fear and loathing of our acknowledged and unacknowledged sexual feelings.

It would be simple reductionism to say that all art created by gay men is a direct refleciton of their immediate and conscious sexuality. But it would also be sheer blindness to attempt to look at their work as separate from their emotional, psychological, and sexual makeup. Gay/lesbian liberation, and femininism, have made enormous impact upon the world. But more importantly, they have had even a greater impact upon the lives of individual lesbians and gay men. Our activism has allowed us all to imagine — and create — more than we ever thought possible.

The Male Nude: A Modern View. Edited by Francois de Louville and Edward Lucie-Smith. Rizzoli, New York, 1985. 172 pp. $30.00.

Changing: fifty drawings by Michael Leonard. Gay Men's Press, London, 1983. 111 pp. $12.50.

Paintings. Michael Leonard, Gay Men's Press, London, 1985. 103 pp. $25.00.

Paintings 1975-1985. Philip Core. Gay Men's Press, London, 1985. 93 pp. $24.95.

Drawings of the Male Nude. Don Bachardy. Twelvetrees Press, Pasadena, CA, 1985. 90 pp. $30.

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Film Fest Wrap-Up

Continued from page 6

valuable for us to have to make mental adjustments when viewing films from other cultures. (Besides, it's a lovely film.)

By the end of the Festival, however, I found myself longing for that simplest of all things, a film which featured a central, loving relationship between or among men who were self-identified — positively so! — as gay. Lo and behold, my wish was granted on the last night: *Parting Glances* was the ideal choice as Festival closer. I don't mean to criticize such fine films as de l'Iglesia's *Hidden Pleasures* or Van Sant's *Mala Noche,* both of which deal with the frustrations of a gay man in love with a younger straight one, when I say that I *need* to see the images of mutual love and erotic attraction between men up there on the silver screen. This is still so rare in our popular culture that its effect acts like a tonic — and these days, we need all the help we can get.

For more detailed reviews of many films featured in this year's New York Gay Film Festival, see the Feb. 1 GCN *(Vol. 13, No. 28).*

Drama in Blond

Lothar Lambert's *Drama in Blond* — he's director, producer, writer, editor, and star — tells the story of Gerhard, a repressed German office worker who finally bursts into life when he puts on female drag and performs in a cabaret. The best parts of the film show this caterpillar-to-butterfly metamorphosis: the first shot of Lambert in blond wig and lipstick lip-synching to "Hey, Big Spender" in front of his mirror is both liberating and hilarious. Much of the movie, however, tries to deal with Gerhard's problems of sexual identity and his relationships with others, particularly his sister and a female neighbor, and these scenes are often heavy-handed or unclear. Is Gerhard really gay, but incredibly scared? Really straight, but shy? Inhibited by his past incest with his sister? We don't get any satisfactory answers, nor does Lambert make us care nearly as much about his hero's psychosexual confusion as he does about whether or not Gerhard will be a success in his new drag.

— *Nicholas Deutsch*

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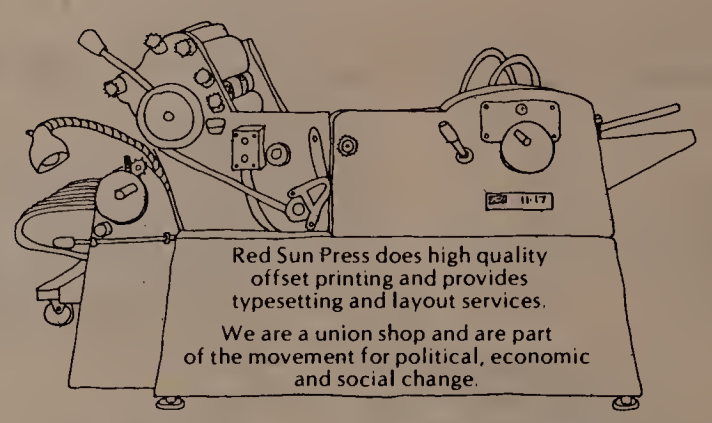

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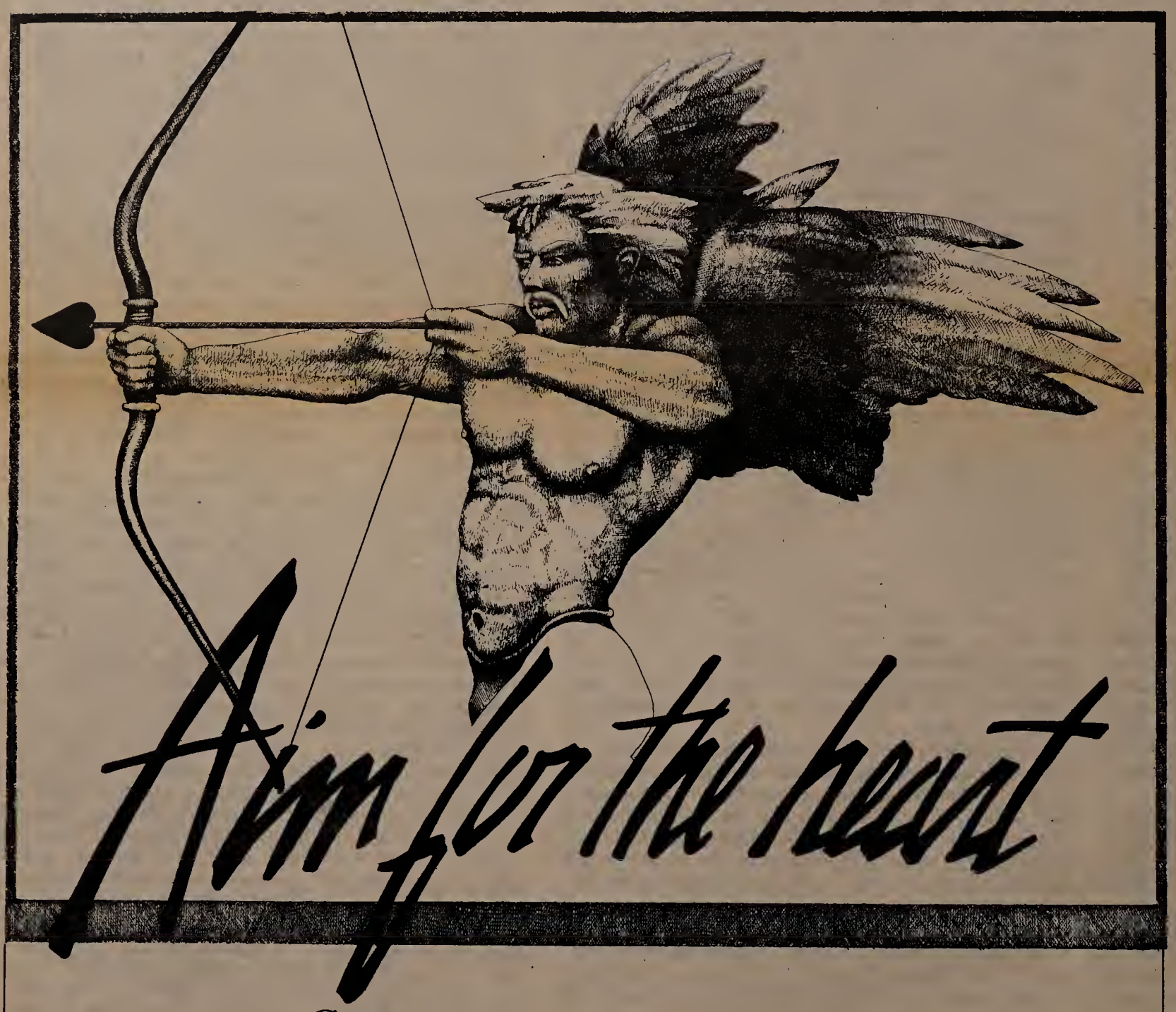

CELEBRATE VALENTINES DAY AND TARGET A DONATION TO THE AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE. ON SATURDAY FEB. 15, TWO DOLLARS FROM EACH COVER DONATION WILL BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE COMMITTEE. HAVE A HEART AND SHOW YOU CARE AT THESE LOCATIONS:

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NAPOLEON CLUB
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February 16
CAMPUS
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JACQUES
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COUNTRY CLUB

The staff and volunteers of the AAC, and people with AIDS, thank these businesses, their owners, staff, and patrons for their generous support and cooperation.

ALL MUSIC! ALL FUN! ALL RAVES!

"FORBIDDEN BROADWAY MAY BE THE BEST THING TO HIT BOSTON SINCE 'A CHORUS LINE,' 'EVITA,' 'LA CAGE AUX FOLLES,' 'DREAMGIRLS,' AND 'FIDDLER'. . . A WICKED DELIGHT!"
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357-8384

THE TERRACE ROOM
AT THE BOSTON PARK PLAZA

Carl Wittman

Continued from page 7

up services to help men with AIDS.

All during this time Carl's interest in folk dancing was growing. He organized many gay and mixed-community folk-dancing groups. Dancing has never appealed to me, but to hear Carl talk was to see it in a whole new light. It was not the semi-precious, somewhat elitist activity that a few people partook in, but rather an anarchistic celebration of equality. Carl had worked out ways to make the dancing leaderless, to do away with the heterosexism which had crept into it, to make it open and accessible to anyone who wanted to participate. It was a form of community organizing — on the most basic level — which combined the mind and the body, thought and energy, and which embraced the basic truths of independence and cooperation. It was, for Carl, a symbol of how people could express themselves and work together. When he died, Carl was at work writing a history of English country dance which explored its egalitarian beginnings.

Thinking about Carl's life, I'm amazed at what a whole it seems: How his early political work grew into and influenced his gay life and work, how his basic human concerns combined his personal world with his community activism. Whether consciously or not, Carl's life seemed most concerned with making the personal as political as possible, and making the political personal. There are many men who Carl's life has touched through "A Gay Manifesto," *RFD,* gay folk-dancing groups, and his articles in gay papers. His absence will be felt by all. In the first issue of *RFD* Carl wrote a piece about an ex-lover and friend who had died: "Whether there is a soul or not, I don't know. But the impact of his life, and his death, is surely here among us."

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THE BUSINESS GUIDE

This guide provides a listing of lesbian- and gay-owned, staffed,or supportive businesses and services. For details about having your business listed for just $100 per year, please call Laurie Sherman at (617) 426-4469.

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OASIS GUEST HOUSE
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Somerville, MA 02144
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Cambridge, MA 02139
876-5310

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Wilton, NH 03086
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HARMONY CHIROPRACTIC
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Brookline, MA 02146
277-7703

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Suite 333
Boston, MA 02116
266-8584

DR. JONATHAN STEIN
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Brookline, MA 02146
232-7200

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Boston, MA 02111
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Winthrop, MA 02152
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Cambridge, MA 02139
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DR. PAUL GROIPEN
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Hyde Park, MA 02136
364-5500

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AMY WETTER
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Boston, MA 02199
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Brookline, MA 02146
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Lawrence,MA 01840
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☐ Judy Collins ☐ Joan Kennedy ☐ Colleen Dewhurst ☐ Nancy Marchand ☐ JoAnne Akalaitis ☐ Kathy Bates ☐ Carmen deLavallade ☐ Alexandra Marshall ☐ Jayne Anne Phillips Monday February 17th 8 PM American Repertory Theatre Loeb Drama Center 64 Brattle Street Cambridge **Tickets $25** ($50 including a reception by The Harvest Restaurant) 547-8300 **Hosted by Jeanne Blake of WBZ-TV4** Directed by Valeria Vasilevski With the Participation of Saks Fifth Avenue Boston

All Proceeds to Benefit The New England Deaconess Hospital and The AIDS Action Committee

7 DAYS FOR AIDS RESEARCH & CARE

MONDAY 1

FEBRUARY 17

OVATIONS — Women United for AIDS Research & Care
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 8 PM
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
$25 and up — On sale at the A.R.T. Box Office (547-8300)
With Joan Kennedy, Judy Collins, Colleen Dewhurst, JoAnne Akalaitis, Alexandra Marshall, Nancy Marchand, Kathy Bates, Carmen de Lavallade, Jayne Anne Phillips, and accomplished women from Boston and Harvard and Radcliffe. Hosted by WBZ-TV's Jeanne Blake

TUESDAY 2

FEBRUARY 18

ARTISTS AGAINST AIDS: A Show of Support
Adams House, Junior Common Room
Opening Reception: 5 PM
Wed-Sat 12-7 PM

DISCUSSION #1 WOMEN & AIDS
Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard, 4 PM
Free
Conducted by Clay Stephens, *Fenway Community Health Center*

ILLUSIONS: AN EVENING OF MIME AND MAGIC (with Jim Vetter)
Experimental Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 7:30 & 10 PM
$5 at the door

FESTIVAL CABARET
Agassiz Theatre, Radcliffe Yard, 8 PM
$3 at the door

STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL
Sever Hall, Basement, 8 PM
$2 at the door
Presented by the Harvard Film Society

AN EVENING OF LIVE ROCK
Man Ray
$5

WEDNESDAY 3

FEBRUARY 19

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT
Dunster House Library, 5:30 PM
Free

DISCUSSION #2: RISK REDUCTION
Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard, 4 PM
Free
Conducted by Gary Beauregard, *Health Educator, AIDS Action Committee*

AIDS SYMPOSIUM
Science Center, Lecture Hall C, 8 PM
Free
Presented by Jerome Groopman, M.D., *Chief of Hematology/Oncology, New England Deaconess Hospital;* Larry Kessler, *Director, AIDS Action Committee;* Ken Mayer M.D., *Research Director, Fenway Community Health Center;* George Seage III, *M.P.H., AIDS Epidemiologist, Boston Dept. of Health and Hospitals*

LATE SHOW THEATRE FESTIVAL: *Two Women with X's in Their Names*
Kronauer Space, Adams House, 11 PM
$2 at the door

THURSDAY 4

FEBRUARY 20

DISCUSSION #3: AIDS & THE LAW
Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard, 4 PM
Free
Conducted by Kevin Cathcart, *Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defender*

DANCE CONCERT
Experimental Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 7:30 PM
$3 at the door
With CityStep Dance Theatre, the Mainly Jazz Dance Company and the Harvard-Radcliffe Dance Company

PILGRIMS, An Original Play by Rodney Hudson
Agassiz Theatre, Radcliffe Yard, 8 & 10 PM
$5 at the door
Presented by the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations

ALLEN GINSBURG READING FROM HIS WORKS
Sanders Theatre, Memorial Hall, 8 PM
$5 at the door
Presented by the Harvard Advocate

JAZZ NIGHTCLUB
Cookin', Cabot House, 10 PM
$2.99

LATE SHOW THEATRE FESTIVAL: *Krapp's Last Tape* by Samuel Beckett
Kronauer Space, Adams House, 11 PM
$2 at the door

FRIDAY 5

FEBRUARY 21

FESTIVAL OPEN READING
Mather House, Senior Common Room, 4 PM
Free

DISCUSSION #4: HOW YOU CAN HELP
Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard, 4 PM
Free
Conducted by Anne Marie Silvia, *Health Education Coordinator, AIDS Action Committee*

HOLOGRAMS: 3-D IMAGES OF THE FUTURE
A lecture-demonstration by Steve Benton
Experimental Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 7:30 PM
$5 at the door
In Association with Polaroid and the M.I.T. Media Lab

PILGRIMS, an original play by Rodney Hudson
Agassiz Theatre, Radcliffe Yard, 8 & 10 PM
$5 at the door

CONCERT OF LIFE: A Spectrum of Sounds
Paine Hall, 8 PM
$3 at the door

LATE SHOW THEATRE FESTIVAL: *Two Women with X's in Their Names*
Kronauer Space, Adams House, 11 PM
$2 at the door

SATURDAY 6

FEBRUARY 22

CHILDREN'S DAY
Experimental Theatre, Loeb Drama Center

THE RED BALLOON WORKSHOP, 9:30 AM
pre-school, limit 25
$10 by pre-registration

THEATRE TO DO with the Just Around the Corner Company, 11 AM
Kindergarten-3rd Grade
$5 at the door

SONGS AND STORIES with Brother Blue and Peter O'Mally, 1:30 PM
All ages
$5 at the door

MIME & MAGIC SHOW with Jim Vetter, 3 PM
Kindergarten-8th Grade
$5 at the door

DISCUSSION #5: AIDS — A PERSONAL ACCOUNT
Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard, 4 PM
Free

ON THIN ICE, Improvisational Comedy
Experimental Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 7:30 & 10 PM
$3 at the door

BUDDIES, a film by Arthur J. Bressan, Jr.
Science Center, Lecture Hall E, 8 & 10 PM
$2.50 at the door

AN EVENING WITH ROBERT WILSON
Brattle Theatre, 8 PM
$15, on sale at the Brattle Theatre (876-4226)
A presentation of the Brattle Performance Series.

LATE SHOW THEATRE FESTIVAL: *Krapp's Last Tape* by Samuel Beckett
Kronauer Space, Adams House, 11 PM
$2 at the door

SUNDAY 7

FEBRUARY 23

A SERVICE IN CELEBRATION OF LIFE
Memorial Church, 4 PM
Conducted by Reverend Peter J. Gomes with musical selections by the Harvard Glee Club, the Collegium Musicum, the Radcliffe Choral Society and the University Choir.

All Proceeds to Benefit the New England Deaconess Hospital and the AIDS Action Committee

Classifieds

DEAR ADVERTISER
If race is not a crucial issue for you, why put it in your ad? It is not a required formula; GWM, GWF are not necessary. GM or GF would do as well. (I)

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GW seeks W to share life with. I am intelligent, warm passionate, sensit., outdoorsy but worldly, well rounded + politically incorrect. If you are similar, not a substance abuser or Separtist, please reply with photo and phone no to Box 26. (31)

LF wishes to meet someone to whom kindness, honesty, sincerity and above all trust, is important too. If anyone is out there that wants this kind of relationship, please reply Box 25. (30)

Looking for love in all the wrong places? Irreverent, intelligent, artistic, LF, 27, recovering vegetarian, seeks pretty, witty and gay companion for the hell of it, and more. Reply Box 24. (30)

I LOVE YOU, SARA K.
With all my heart, all my soul and all my might. C. (31)

LF, 41, RI Veterinarian, recent break up, desires relationship with mutual respect, support, humor, some space, friendship first. Box 27. (32)

LF, Butchy-fem, late 40's seeks femmy-butch, 35+, warm, sense of humor, intelligent, for fun/solid relationship. Box 29. (30)

PSYCHIC VIBES TO PAULA
Get me out of here! Last saw you and friends in 1980 when I was MIT student. Please contact me. Thanks! Reply Box 18. (30)

GWM, 18-25, wanted 4A friend who has old fashion values, non promiscuous. Ad by successful wm, 37, (cincut/cinshavn), have my own car, home! Write P.O. Box 1489 Boston 02205. (39)

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Amiable gwm, 38, wants young 18-24, non-smoking, blond, cincut/shaven student escort on a regular basis! I have Boston home on the MBTA line! John 265-3595. Best time to call 7-11 pm. (34)

DICTIONARY, anyone?
The most requested book at the Prisoner's Project is the dictionary. (Prisoners, generally uneducated, need them to wade thru law books etc.) If you have a spare one (paperbacks especially), please send it to: GCN Prisoner Project, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks! (c)

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The Boston Lesbian and Gay Pride Planning Committee is *"UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT"* and looking for new members. P.O. Box 8916-02114 Boston, MA 02114 or 391-3411 for info. *FORWARD TOGETHER!* (C)

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PUBLICATIONS

LESBIAN CONTRADICTION
A Journal of Irreverant Feminism. Quarterly of commentary, analysis, reviews, cartoons & humor by and for women who agree to disagree, who are still political, but not necessarily correct. Sample $1; sub. $5; more if/less if. LesCon, 584 Castro, #263G, SF, CA 94114. (V.14/18)

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For copying, printing shop. Call 723-5130 for interview. (31)

C O U N S L O R S
SPOFFORD HALL, a private 134-bed chemical dependence treatment facility, located on beautiful Spofford Lake in rural New Hampshire, and CONIFER PARK, a newly renovated 195-bed famous modern facility, located in tranquil Scotia, New York, are searching for counselors. Our sister facilities are the largest providers of in-patient rehabilitation services in the Northeast. For a challenging career in a well-established professional speciality hospital in a mosern environment, submit letter and resume to Personnel, Spofford Hall, P.O. Box 225, Spofford, NH 03462. Equal Opportunity Employer. (31)

SOJOURNER JOB OPENING
Boston's feminist paper seeks assertive, energetic, organized ad sales rep. 20 hours/week, salary, paid vacation, sick leave, partial insurance. Come join us! Please send resume asap to: SOJOURNER, 143 Albany St., Cambridge, MA 02139 (32)

DESIGNER/ARCHITECT
Small firm looking for capable person to participate full or part time in all phases of office work, architectural & graphic design thru working drawings. Exp. pref'd. Resume to: Tom Huth, Architect, 137 Walnut St. Brookline, MA 02146. (c)

GCN SPECIALS

HELP!!!
GCN needs another office chair (on wheels)or two. If you have one that you're not using, please call Mike at 426-4469. Thanks.

HELP!!! BOOKS!!!
Please consider sending or dropping by *GCN*(167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111; on the Common) your already read gay books (fiction or nonfiction). Prisoners really do get alot out of them and we'll be glad to send them in. Thanks. (We don't refuse donations for postage; but we'll be glad to get just books!). (c)

WRITERS
Help *GCN* cover the culture beat all over the nation. Plays, movies, concerts, perfomances, we want the latest word on the newest creations from coast to coast. If you'd like to join *GCN*'s team of volunteer reviewers, send a letter and writing sample to: GCN Features, 167 Tremont St., 5th Floor, Boston MA 02111. (c)

FEBRUARY IS LOVER'S MONTH
For the month of February, GCN wants to help you send a message to those you love.
For a limited time, all personals have been reduced to $2.00 per insert (for the first 4 lines only)
This offer is good only for personal ads. All other charges (box numbers, additional lines, etc.)remain the same.

CLASSIFIED AD FORM

•**DEADLINE:** Tuesday, noon.
All ads are prepaid.
No phone ads accepted.

NAME ____________
STREET ____________ APT. ______
CITY ____________ STATE ______ ZIP ______
PHONE (____) ____________

Use 1 unit for each letter, punctuation mark or space between words.
Print clearly. Ads will be returned if we can't read them.

Category: [ ]

Head Lines [ ] **Head Lines**

Bold Headlines: Business ____ x 2.00 = ____
Non-Business ____ x 1.00 = ____
1st 4 Lines or part thereof: Business 7.00 = ____
Non-Business 5.00 = ____
Additional Lines or part thereof: Business ____ x .75 = ____
Non-Business ____ x .50 = ____
TOTAL = ____

SPECIAL RATES FOR NON-PROFIT GAY ORGANIZATIONS

Display (Boxed) Classifieds: Col. inches or part thereof: ____ x 12.00 = ____
TOTAL for 1 Week (Add) = ____
Number of Weeks (Multiply) = ____
SUBTOTAL = ____
DISCOUNTS: for 10-20 consecutive weeks 10% = ____
for 21-30 consec. wks. 15% = ____
for 31 + consec. wks. 20% = ____
TOTAL FOR AD COPY = ____
☐ Pick-up Box: for 6 wks 2.00 = ____
☐ Forwarding Bx: 6wks. 5.00 = ____
☐ Tearshts: #wks____x1.00 = ____
TOTAL = ____

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL CLASSIFIEDS.
Return this form and payment to *GCN* Classifieds, 167 Tremont St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111.

TRY GCN's "GUARANTEED ROOMMATE" AD

GCN's "Guaranteed Roommate" offer
All Roommate and Housemate Ads that are Prepaid for Two Weeks We will run until you find a roommate.
Ads will not be automatically renewed. You must call in every additional week you want the ad to run. Phone calls will be accepted all day Mondays and Tuesdays till noon.

ROOMMATES

LWF seeks 2 LF to share 8 room house in Sudbury in woods. 25+, aminals ok, acess to Route 9, Route 20, + Mass Pike. $425. 893-8149 (31)

LF, 36, Friendly, independent and considerate sks L for 5 RM Carolina Ave apt. JP, near T. Large yard, private porch, 3rd fl. Safe, warm. $325 heated. 524-8655. Wk: (603) 881-2434. Ask for Lynn. (31)

2Fs (1G) seek rmt for 3bdr SEnd apt smokers,hedonists. Lovers of Aretha, cottage cheese, letterman + Princess Stephanie. $317 +/month. 267-6167 (31)

GOOD WOMAN WANTED, 30 + March 1st **fun, feminist house w Bi +L. Committment to growth creating balance of cooperation + camaraderie. Independent nonsmoking animal lover. Nr T. No cats. $208+. Call 354-3399 (31)

JP: LF seeks LF 28+ to share apt w/c AT, back porch + yard, big kitchen. No smoke mostly veggie share some meals. Open to communication. $237.50 +utilies. 522-3868 w524-1984 Linda. (31)

HOUSE IN NORTHAMPTON
JLF seeks similar for 1 bdrm in 2 bdrm house, 1 mile from cntr of town. Must be responsible and have sense of humor. Rent is $187+utilies. Call 586-9451. Leave message. (31)

Prof gf seeks f for luxurious 2 bed, 2 bath, balcony apt. near Cool. Crnr in Brookline. Must be very clean responsible, fin. secure. Grad student ok. $400 rent. Available 1/86. Call Mary 731-4185. Leave message. (29)

JIf and If seek mature, responsiblelf to share lovely 3 bedroom apt. near Davis Sq., Som. 99.4 chem free. $200+. 1(politically correct) cat. 628-4165. (29)

Lf, 33 and 4 mo. old Infant seek friendly If roommate to share beaut. pondside JP apt. No drugs or alcohol. No pets. $230+ utils. Julie 522-2626. (29)

HOUSING WANTED

GREAT HOUSE WANTED
LF 28 clean quiet responsible-seeks long term housing in stable home. No active alcohol/drug abusers. Mar 1. Kathleen 625-7734. (32)

HOUSEMATE WANTED

3F Women aeek 4th L/Bis/het for lovely JP home. We are musical sharing, indep, sense of humor, 30-35 yrs. $275+ 524-0424, 522-4219 (31)

CAMBRIDGEPORT COLLECTIVE
4-Person mixed collective in Cambridgeport needs 2 more housemates, preferably for March 1st. The household includes gay +straight, women and men, and 1 child (9) part-time. We are socially/politically progressive, semi-veg, non-smoking and we share meals and ocassional outings. The house is large (3 stories), neat, inexpensive ($200 includes rent and all utilies) +Is 2 blocks from Central Sq. The collective has been somewhere in-between totally indepent dent and incredibly close-knit. Call ASAP! Evenings before 10:30, call 864-1466; or ask for Laurie at GCN, 426-4469.

GM musician-conductor w/ pno & cat. Enjoy performing, prog pol., clean, humor, good food, cooperation. George Fulginiti-Shakar at 547-2120. (29)

CAMBRIDGE—SOMERVILLE
Middle-aged bisexual man wlshes to share small apartment with stable, emotionally mature, financially responsible, communicative, considerate and cooperative person or couple. No pets or drugs please. Call David at 923—0082. (c)

APARTMENTS

DORCHESTER LARGE 1 BR APT.
In lovely Victorian house, hardwood floors, yard, 1½ baths, sunporch, Melville park, near Shawmut T. No pets. $595 heated. 825-1912, 482-7943. (31)

JP Pdside suny 1 br 3rd fl apt skylt 5 hdwd fls, designer kit, dw, nat wd. $500 mo 524-3668 (eves) (30)

APARTMENT WANTED

MARLBORO/HUDSON AREA
Lesbian couple working in Waltham/ Worcester seeks Inbetween location. Can move anytime. 263-4373. (30)

REAL ESTATE

Log Cabin near Mass Pike, RT 20, RT 9. Seven rms on four acres. Hot water ht. Two fireplaces, privacy, zoned agr. Ideal retirement, good fishing, hunting. Small antique business, sell with antique furniture. Would consider renting. Call after 6 PM. 617 347-3866. (30)

DORCHESTER-SALE BY OWNER
Picturesque 7 rm victorian, 3 sunny bdrms, cntry kitch, walk in cios, newly rstrd din/lvg rms. Unfinished bsmt/attic. Short walk Ashmont T. Lv messge 825-0025 8am to 10pm. $120K. (34)

BAY VILLAGE
Lovely small townhouse on best street. 4 BR's, 2½ baths, LR, DR, library. Private deck. Offered at $395,000. Call Elise Henning, Hunneman and Co., 45 Newbury Street. 426-4430. (31)

TRADING POST

WOMEN'S BARTER NETWORK
Short on cash, but have lots you'd like to trade for your needs? Women's Barter Network is a non-profit, nationwide barter referral system for women and women's organizations/ businesses. Send SASE for details to Women's Barter Network, Box 712, Wabash, Indiana 46992. (30?)

RESORTS

BED & BREAKFAST IN N.Y.
Enjoy a decadent weekend in a charming, lesbian owned, N.Y. brownstone-only 1 subway stop from Manhattan. Be pampered by having breakfast served in bed, and sipping a complimentary bottle of champagne on arrival. For more information call 718-625-2653. The RADCLYFFE HALL or 718-522-2828 (s17)

GABRIEL'S
Guest rooms and apartments. Centrally located. Hot tub, garden patio, cable tv, coffee. 104 Bradford St. Provincetown, MA 02657. Reservations: (617) 487-3232. Open year round. (yr)

CKECK'ER OUT AT THE CHECK'ER INN
Double rooms, coffee bt fireside, pkg, apts. also available. 1 block bay, open year round. 487-9029, 25 Winthrop St. P'town, MA 02657 (yr)

WHITE MOUNTAIN MAGIC
Come ski our mlles of x-country trails, ice skate or snowshoe, soak In our hot tub, enjoy a sleigh ride or downhill ski. We've got it all—Including a cozy fireplace and hundreds of books for those who prefer chairs to skiis. Great mid-week discounts! The Highlands Inn, Box 118 G Bethlehem, NH 03574. (603) 869-3978. Grace +Judi innkeepers. (34)

SPINDRIFT TROPICAL RESORT
"Tropically perfect—Perfectly tropical" (The Weekly News, Miami). Free brochure—Spindrift, 1212 Simonton, Key West, FL 33040. (305) 296-3432. Helen, Hostess. (43)

FOR SALE

WINTER SPECIALS
1) 2 SNOW TIRES, tubeless radials, 165SR13, about 10,000 miles, excellent condition; Tiger Brand and Sears Roadhandler. $25 a piece; $40/pair.

2) Leather knee high Bass leatherboots. Size 7, light brown, worn very little. 522-5529. (c)

Black leather jacket. Winter weight, quilt lined. Perfect for cyclists, cop or security guard. Size 52—54, not cheap but worth the price. Days 391-3411. (c)

Singer double needle, zig—zag sewing machine.$75.00. Call 391-3411. (c)

ORGANIZATIONS

D.O.B.
Support orgnztn for lesbians, 1151 Mass Ave, Cambridge, Old Bap Chr. Raps every Tues, Thur 8pm. Special raps for 35+;parents; yngr women; baby bmrs; singles; coming out; issues forum. All 8pm. Monthly events, outing club, library. Info: 661-3633. All women invited to participate. (?)

LESBIANS
Are you Lesbian, Bisexual or unsure?
Looking for a group to go?
Come join us at BAGLY.

CAll Tony, 497-8282
(13/32)

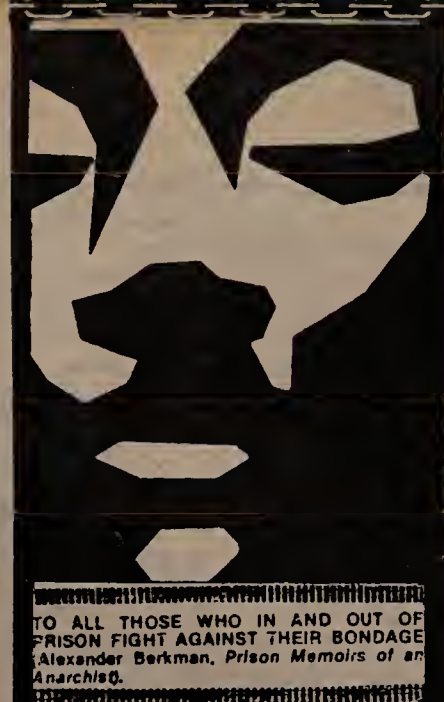
BLACK AND WHITE MEN TOGETHER
Multiracial group for all people. Call (415) 431-1976 or write BWMT Siute 140, 580 Castro St., SF, CA 94114. (v14.15))

"JOHNNY DIED TODAY..."
14 year old Joey will blow out his brains, Eddie will overdose and David will slash his wrists In the days to come. All because you're too scared to protect them. SASE for Info, $2 stramps 64 page newsletter. $20 subsc/mbrshp. "REALITY INC.," PO Box 73, Paramus, NJ 07653. (?)

HETEROSEXISM, RACISM
Sexism, anti-Semitlsm, multicultural issues . Workshops by national consultants for your organization (munlcipal, professional, political, educational) or business. Contact Equity Institute in Amherst, MA at (413)256-6902. Co-directors Carole Lanigan Johnson, J.D., and Joan Lester Ed.D. (?)

GAY LESBIAN AND JEWISH?
Am Tikva welcomes you. Activities include religious observances, discussions, potluck dinners, folk dancing, etc. For events, check GCN Calendar. Call (617) 782-8894 or write PO Box 11 Camb, MA 02238 (?)

MAN/BOY LOVE
A support group for intergenerational relationships. For more information send $1 to: NAMBLA—GCNAD at 537 Jones St. No. 8418, S.F., CA 94102 or PO Box 174, New York, NY 10018. (v.14.23)



Indian female, likes reading, writing poetry, camping, hiking, rafting (a true nature lover!), sports, seeking caring and understanding friend for correspondence. Thank you, Tabatha Charleen BIAS, 16-0652 No.44, Box 8540, Pembroke Pines FL 33024.

Female 31 single, warm and intelligent seeking friends for penpals to help make this time go by together. Jennifer GOULD, Box 99, Framingham MA 01701.

ATTENTION PRISONERS (especially women)
We are looking for short articles (3-4 typewritten peges, if you can get you hands on a typewriter, handwritten neetly if you can't) on your experience with the law enforcement, court and prison business. Also graphics (line drawings, cartoons, etc.)!! Don't send anything you expect to get sent beck (postega is just too expensive). Thay can be very 'personal' pieces or political rantings and ravings. Remember you're writing to other gay men and women who have much to learn about how the law really works. Send your stuff to: GCN Prisoner Project, 167 Tremont St., Boston MA 02111. Enjoy!]

GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT
We send free papers, books (when they are donated and money for postage is available), and run free penpal ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting list because of limited space.) As we get more volunteers we'll be looking for other ways to make the connections between lesbians and gay men behind bars and those of us on the outside. If you can help with your time or a contribution of mainly gay paperbacks or of money), we are at 167 Tremont, Boston, MA 02111. THANKS!

SEATTLE GAY NEWS will accept penpal ads from prisoners on a *space available (!)* basis from Wash, Oregon and Idaho prisoners. Write to: Seattle Gay News, 704 E. Pike St., Seattle WA 98122.

Limited amt of free PENPAL AD space for prisoners in Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, W. Virginia & Penn. (only!) Send short ads to: Baltimore Gay Paper, Prisoner Ad, Box 22575, Baltimore MD 21203. (Please don't send personal letters or requests because we don't have the money and people to respond.)

CENSORSHIP of GAY stuff
I would be pleased to help any inmate who wishes to write me for information on censorship, which I have been fighting lately. I have no problems getting mail from out-of-state prisoners. Cory SHARP, 118720, PO Box 430, Dillwyn VA 23936.

I received the GCN and would definitely like to get more. My Interests (for possible penpals) are cooking, photography, meeting new people and sports. I do thank you for your concerns for us involved in the struggle of sexual preference. Respectfully, Synnachia McQUEEN, Ramsey I, 305897, Rt 4 Box 1100, Rosharon TX 77583.

Prisoners Seeking Friends

ON 'COMING OUT'
One sure wey to make it herd for prisoners coming out of prison to make it on the outside is to keep them from getting jobs end housing. This is just whet this society does with its ettitudes towerd ex-prisoners. Don't be surprised if e penpel asks for some help in finding work or e place to live. Their getting out on perole this yeer, rether than next, mey depend on finding these (or e 'sponsor'), end their steying out will certelnly depend on it. The GCN Prisoner Project is elweys looking for info on jobs end housing resources in eli regions of the country.
Stert your own prisoner project et a prison near you (the most effective place to be) by getting together end updating this kind of info and meking it eveileble to the prisoners who are coming out.

ALL PRISONERS, AND ESPECIALLY WOMEN, ARE ENCOURAGED TO WRITE PRISON BOOK PROGRAM (c/o Redbook, 92 Green St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130) REQUESTING BOOKS ON WOMEN'S ISSUES, NOVELS, POLITICAL TOPICS, RACISM, THE PRISON BUSINESS, GAY AND LESBIAN AND OTHER ISSUES. (WE USUALLY RUN ABOUT A MONTH OR SO BEHIND, SO BE PATIENT)

Any kind of Info you can send on sexual discrimination and rights of gays in prison, please do. Also I'd like my name put on the penpal list. I'm in protective custody because of being threatened by other Inmates. Any kind of legal help would be appreciated. Thank you. James W. FITZGERALD, 00847-025, Box 888 BCH, Ashland, KY 41101.

I'm writing because I would like to become acquainted with someone that would be interested. I'm a male with female characteristics. I'd like to meet a good man. My home is Atlanta. Would appreciate any correspondence. Very sexy and fine! Franklin NEELEY, Box 276, Chester GA 31012.

My name is Ronald aka Stephanie. I'm a new comer to being homosexual. I consider myself an arising unisexual distressed homosexual; for short, I have just come out of the closet and am having troubles coping with my indentity. Looking for true companion. (Cheri Renee, received your letter but mailroom clipped return address off. Please write) Ronald STAFFORD, 163896, PO Box 779, Marquette MI 49855.

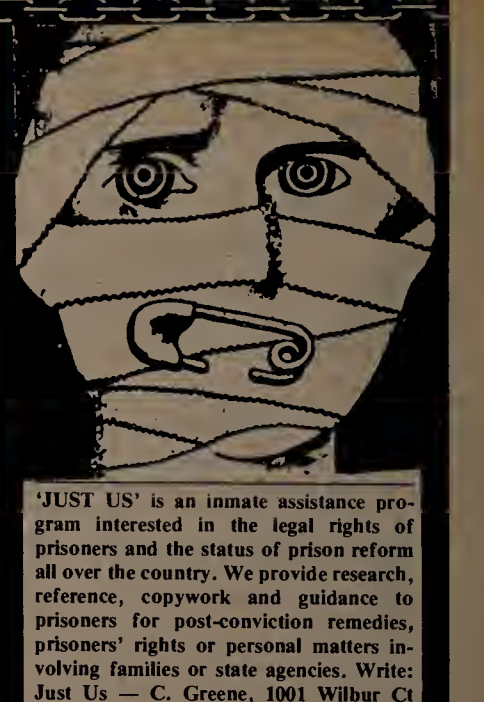
Are the clones out there stereotyping us Inmates In here? And not writing because you think we're all communists or psychotic? I'm a regular guy. No one is perfect. I need a for real no bullshit gay guy for a friend. Joe TERRACIANO, 65988, Box F-1 Leesburg, NJ 08327.

Lonely, unpretentious gay convict, 33, famished for friendship and decent honest conversation. Marcus TAYLOR, 186-263, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699.

GM looking for friends to write. Will be released this year. Can exchange photos. Edwin SMITH, 31003, Box 473, Westville IN 46391.

i am desperately In need of hearing from intelligent gays on the outside. Interested In yoga, chess, weightlifting, and sex, not necessarily in that order. David CLIFFORD, 109543, Camp D Eagle 3, Angola LA 70712

I'm a man who enjoys reading, writing, all sports, and various hobbies, looking for fun-loving individuals to share my lonely time with. Ricky VonLAMBERT, Box 600, 52688, Canon City CO 81212



'JUST US' is an inmate assistance program interested in the legal rights of prisoners and the status of prison reform all over the country. We provide research, reference, copywork and guidance to prisoners for post-conviction remedies, prisoners' rights or personal matters involving families or state agencies. Write: Just Us — C. Greene, 1001 Wilbur Ct No.8, Gretna LA 70056.

National Coalition of Black Gays offers its (sometimes) bimonthly publication *Habari Daftari* to prisoners free of charge and also will attempt to offer some referral information (legal, political, etc). They do not have enought people to answer personal letters. Write to them at: NCBG, Rm 514, 930 F St. NW, Washington DC 20004.

There's someone in here who is afraid of being out there (and will be fairly soon — May, in New Jersey), but ready and willing to come out, to leave the abuse and injustice behind these bars. Would like to meet some penpals for friendship. Please write Edward PATTERSON, 31522-066, Box 7000, Texarkana TX 75501.

GM 30 doing time, no one to write. Photo or stamp gets quickest reply. I want to try everything when i get out next year. Michael ELKINS, 10655-08 PO Box 58, McCaln NC 28361.

I'll be happy to have a penpal because I enjoy writing. My interests are reading, chess, pinochle, bridge, dancing, and more! I eagerly anticipate your reply. Thanks. Frank FERGUSON, 83A6093, Box 307, Beacon NY 12508.

CALENDAR

February 8 to February 16

8 saturday

Cambridge — Gay/Lesbian Dance at Harvard. Adams House Dining Hall, 38 Plympton St. 9PM-1AM. Info: 495-5476.

Cambridge — "Thirteen Ships" launching party and concert. Washburn Aud., Episcopal Divinity School, 99 Brattle St. 8PM. $6 in advance, $7 at door.

Jamaica Plain — Grand Opening of the **Peacock Coffeehouse.** Center & Eliot Sts. 8PM. $3. Emory Wood, Rob Krikorian, and the Marianne Krietlow/Dennis Pearne duo to perform. Childcare available.

Brighton — *Three Sisters,* performed by **Double Edge** Theater. Church of Sts. Luke & Margaret, 40 Brighton Ave. 8PM. $8. Playing through March 1. Info: 254-4228.

9 sunday

Brookline — Brookline/Brighton/Allston **lesbians potluck** dinner. 6PM. Info: 566-7872.

Cambridge — Black & White **Men Together.** "Perspectives on Africa" by former Peace Corps members. Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Univ. 1-5PM.

Jamaica Plain — Disabled Lesbians potluck and discussion. 2-4PM. Accessible. Info: 524-1890.

Boston — Metropolitan **Community Church** of Boston, a church of the lesbian & gay community. 131 Cambridge St. Info: 523-7664.

Quincy — Quincy **Gay & Lesbian Alliance** business meeting. 7-9PM. Info: Karen, 767-2336 or De, 328-5567.

10 monday

Boston — Volunteers needed for **Gay and Lesbian Hotline.** Women encouraged to apply. Info: Kenny, 542-5188.

Waitham — Volunteers needed for Support Committee for **Battered Women.** Hotline & shelter staffing. Info: 891-0724.

Portland, ME — Deadline to register: Third Regional Conference on **Bisexuality,** March 7-9. Info: Conference, P.O. Box 849, Prudential Station, Boston 02199.

11 tuesday

Cambridge — Sanchin Women's School of **Karate & Self-Defense** classes begin. 595 Mass. Ave., 4th Floor, Central Sq. Sliding-scale fees. Childcare by appointment. Info: 522-9821.

Cambridge — Harvard Film Archives **Women's Cinema** Series. 24 Quincy St., Harvard Univ. 5:30 & 8PM. $2. Info: 495-4700.

Cambridge — Legacy, a drop-in social for **lesbian and gay elders.** Cambridge Committee of Elders, 15 Pearl St., Central Sq. 6-8PM. Info: 725-4907.

Cambridge — Coming out group for women. Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave., Old Cambridge Baptist Church. 8PM. All women welcome. $1. Info: 661-3633.

12 wednesday

Boston — Community **Networking Breakfast.** Club Cafe. 8AM. Info: 536-4478 or 265-1963.

Cambridge — Lesbian Teachers' support group. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 7-9PM. Info: 354-8807.

Brookline — *In the **Good Old Summertime.*** Brookline Public Library, 361 Washington St. 7PM. Free. Info: 734-0100.

Don West

Al Eaton as M.L. King, Jr., Feb. 15

13 thursday

Boston — *GCN*'s production night: all welcome to proofread & paste-up pages. 5-7PM for proofreading, 8PM-midnight for paste-up. 167 Tremont St., near Park & Boylston T-stops. *GCN:* 426-4469.

Boston — Gay Boston, a monthly TV magazine. Access Channel A3. 8PM. Info: 723-5130.

Cambridge — "The **Anti-apartheid** Movement," a forum sponsored by Mobilization for Survival. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. 7:30PM. $2. Info: 354-8807.

Boston — "The Everyday World as Problematic: A Feminist Method," a lecture by **Dorothy E. Smith.** 8PM. Frost Lounge, Ell Building.

Cambridge — Lesbians **Choosing Children** Network. Topic: Childbearing losses. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Central Sq. 7:30PM. Info: 354-8807.

Provincetown — ***The Night of the Iguana,*** performed by the Provincetown Theatre Company. 460 Commercial St. 8PM. $6, $2.50 seniors & students. Through March 2. Info: 487-2695.

Framingham — ***Pink Triangles,*** shown by N.O.W. & the Social Concerns Committee of First Parish. Vernon St. 7:30PM. Free. Info: 872-6900.

Boston — Lesbian & Gay **Pride Planning** Committee. 74 Joy St. 7:30PM. Info: 391-3411.

14 friday

Boston — *GCN*'s volunteer night: all welcome to help mail the paper to our subscribers. Refreshments, good times. Anytime after 6PM. 167 Tremont St., near Park & Boylston T-stops. *GCN:* 426-4469.

New Hampshire — Three-day **hiking trip** with Chiltern Mtn. Club. Previous experience required. Info: Roy, 661-1436.

Cambridge — ***Freedom and Angelina,*** presented by City Stage Co. Cambridge Multi-Cultural Arts Center. 8PM. Also on Sat. Info: 266-2733.

Cambridge — Black & White Men Together's **Valentine Party.** Info: Craig, 321-4382.

Cambridge — Lavender Hearts II, storytelling by Jennifer Justice. New Words, 186 Hampshire St. 7 & 9PM. $5. Info: 391-3744.

Cambridge — Two plays from "Suite for Single Women" by Gloria Parkinson. Agassiz Theatre, Radcliffe Yard, 10 Garden St. 8PM. Free. Info: 495-8676.

Boston — Lesbian **Single Valentines'** Potluck. 7:30PM. $3. Bring a dish to share. Sponsored by D.O.B. Info: Jean, 277-8150.

February is... Black History Month

9 sunday

Boston — "The Role of **Black Men** in Black History...Past, Present and Future," a Black Men's Association Forum with Jim Williams and Sylvia Wright; music by Noel Edwards. 558 Mass. Ave. 5PM. $2. Info: 262-5323 or 782-0408.

11 tuesday

Boston — Byron Rushing on **"The Black Heritage Trail."** Museum of Afro American History, the Abiel Smith School, 46 Joy St., Beacon Hill. 5:30PM.

15 saturday

Cambridge — *M.L. King,* a one-man performance by Al Eaton. Cambridge Boys & Girls Club, 130 Prospect St. 3PM. Free. Info: 484-1599.

18 tuesday

Boston — Beth Anne Bower on "The Archaeology Program and the **African Meeting House."** Museum of Afro American History, the Abiel Smith School, 46 Joy St., Beacon Hill. 5:30PM.

19 wednesday

Cambridge — "The **Black Woman:** Revisions of a Distorted Image," a talk by Helen Boulware Moore. Bldg. 9-150, MIT. 7:30PM. Free. Info: 253-8844.

15 saturday

Bangor, ME — Valentines Dance sponsored by Bangor Interweave. Unitarian Church. Info: P.O. Box 8008, Bangor, ME 04401.

Boston — Silent **prayer vigil** for all those touched by AIDS. St. John the Evangelist, 35 Bowdoin St. 1-2:30PM. Info: Dignity, 536-6518.

Boston — "To Life: A Liturgy for All Touched by AIDS," sponsored by Dignity/Boston. Paulist Center Chapel, 5 Park St. 8PM. Reception to follow.

Cambridge — "Conversations," performed as part of a **Suite for Single Women** by Gloria Parkinson. Agassiz Theatre, Radcliffe, 10 Garden St. 8PM. Free. Info: 495-8676.

Boston — "Stepping Into Life," a **sex and love addicts** anonymous conference. Mass. Mental Health Center, 74 Fenwood Rd. 9AM-4:30PM. $3. Info: 625-7961.

Boston — "Something About the Women," music and public affairs. WMFO 91.5 FM. 10AM-2PM.

Boston — "The Gold Diggers," a film directed by **Sally Potter.** Mass. College of Art, Longwood Building, Rm. 309, 364 Brookline Ave. 7:30 & 9:30PM. $2.

Provincetown — "Juke-Box Saturday Nite," a **dance benefit** for *womantide.* Provincetown Town Hall. 9PM. $5. Info: 487-3574.

16 sunday

Boston — *The Man with the Suitcase*, a film directed by **Chantal Akerman.** Mass. College of Art, Longwood Building, Rm. 309, 364 Brookline Ave. 7:30 & 9:30PM. $2.

Boston — 8th Annual Mass. Gay **Political Caucus Auction.** Somewhere Else, 295 Franklin St. 4-8PM.

note this

Gertrude Stein and a Companion, *by Win Wells, directed by Ira Cirker, with Jan Miner and Marian Seldes. At the Lucille Lortel Theatre, New York City.*

This latest entry in the Gertrude Stein theatrical sweepstakes suggests that we have reached a point of diminishing returns: Stein the writer, the radical reshaper of North American prose, stands in danger of being overshadowed by Stein the legend and (posthumous) stand-up comic. And by now, dramatizing her life is a Catch-22 situation: stick to the facts, and we'll have to sit through an awful lot of familiar material; start to speculate and invent, and someone is bound to protest.

Gertrude Stein and a Companion — the title derives from Hemingway's famous put-down of Alice B. Toklas — begins with Stein's death in 1946 and ends with Toklas' in 1967. In between, thanks to dramatic license, Stein speaks to Toklas from beyond the grave, and together they retrace their shared life all the way back to that first meeting in 1907. Along the way, the play has its share of funny and touching scenes, yet the ultimate effect is thin and shapeless. Wells does give us a strong picture of a loving and intimate marriage between the women, though it's slightly too genteel: no doubt the giddy yet coy ecstasy of Stein's erotic poetry would jar in such a well-bred play.

The underrated Jan Miner makes a fine, strong Stein, and Marian Seldes (though basically miscast) does many good things as Toklas: the moment when she hears of Hemingway's death is especially moving. Direction and production are appropriately straightforward, if bland; but who thought up that onstage saxophonist, straight out of Tennessee Williams? Someone ring up Virgil Thomson, quick!

Let's Misbehave, *conceived, produced and directed by Michael Bavar, adaptation by Bavar and Joseph Najavits, musical direction by Andrew Wilder, choreography by Robert Speller. At the T.O.M.I. Theater, New York City.*

Let's Misbehave is being produced to benefit a worthy cause: the AIDS Residence Program, a project designed "to develop housing alternatives for persons with AIDS." So I'm sorry I wasn't more enthusiastic about the show.

Based on Avery Hopwood's 1927 play *The Alarm Clock*, *Let's Misbehave* is a musical which focuses on sophisticated New York bachelor Bobby Brandon (William Broderick) who falls in love with his "country cousin" Homer Kent (Evan Matthews). The songs are a baker's dozen of oldies like "Abba Dabba Honeymoon"; the show might have been created simply so that two men could sing "Exactly Like You" to each other — which they do, affectingly.

The script, however, is a mess, not so much because most of the humor is old-hat or lame, but because the adaptors haven't thought through the consequences of changing Bobby from a straight bachelor to a gay one. As a result, nothing really makes sense: we get neither a genuine picture of 1920s gay life nor an alternative reality with its own consistent logic (as in *Boy Meets Boy*).

Finally, while a first-rate cast might have helped to hide the script's failings, only Matthews' Intensely sincere (and gorgeously blond) Homer and Caroline Durham's likeable Cousin Ollve really come through strongly; elsewhere, the talent is spread too thin to salvage the show and make of it the satisfying light entertainment it obviously wants to be.

— Nicholas Deutsch

Calendar compiled by Miranda Kolbe

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